



United Nations
1996

Population Ageing

in
Asia and the Pacific

Economic and Social Commission
for Asia and the Pacific
Bangkok

255
2002/06

Japanese Organization
for International Cooperation
in Family Planning, Inc.
Tokyo

04334

Community Health Cell
Library and Documentation Unit
BANGALORE

Population Ageing

in

Asia and the Pacific

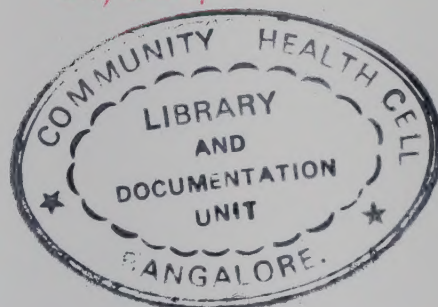


**United Nations
New York, 1996**

**Economic and Social Commission
for Asia and the Pacific
Bangkok**

**Japanese Organization
for International Cooperation
in Family Planning, Inc.
Tokyo**

ES-110²⁹⁶
04334



ST/ESCAP/1594

The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

This document has been issued without formal editing.

CONTENTS

Page

Foreword

1. Ageing - A Global Population Trend	6
1.1 Global Trend in Ageing	6
a. World Population Projections by Region	6
b. World Population Projections for Changes in Age Structure	6
c. World Population Aged 60 and Over	7
1.2 Patterns of Ageing in Asia and the Pacific Region	8
a. Subregional Differences in Percentage of Population Aged 60 and over	8
b. Rapidity of the Population Ageing Process	9
c. Dramatic Rise of the Elderly Population	10
2. Population Dynamics and Ageing	11
2.1 The Process of Population Ageing	11
a. Declining Crude Birth Rate	11
b. Changes in Life Expectancy at Birth	12
2.2 Changes in Population Structure	13
2.3 Ageing and Dependency	14
a. Dependency Ratios	14
b. Trends of Dependency Ratios	15
2.4 Changing Pattern of "Old-Old" and "Young-Old"	16
2.5 Sub-national Differences in Ageing	17
a. Percentage of Aged in Rural and Urban Areas, 1990	17
b. Population Ageing Map	18
3. Socio-economic Implications of Ageing	19
3.1 Impact of Ageing on the Economy	19
a. Relationship between Percentage of Population over Age 65 and Per Capita Income (US dollars), 1990	19
b. Social Security and the National Economy	20

3.2	Ratio of the Elderly Population Supported by the Middle-Age Population	21
3.3	Economically Active Elderly	22
	a. Active and Inactive Elderly	22
	b. Sector of Economic Activity	23
3.4	Living Arrangement of the Aged Population	24
3.5	The Family Life Cycle in Japan	25
4.	Current Issues of Population Ageing	26
4.1	Economic Security	26
	a. Source of the Financial Support	26
	b. Social Support Schemes	26
	c. Attitude towards Working	27
	d. Actual versus Preferred Retirement Age	27
4.2	Health and Health Care of the Elderly	28
	a. Life Expectancy at Age 60 Years	28
	b. Active Life Expectancy	29
	c. Changes in Mortality Patterns among the Elderly	30
	d. Health Financing - Medical Expenditure in Japan	31
4.3	Family and Care of the Elderly	32
	a. Attitude of Japanese Women towards the Care of Elderly Parents	32
	b. Trend of Japanese Elderly Living with Their Children	32
	c. Desired Attendants for the Elderly	33
4.4	Women and Population Ageing	34
	a. Female Share among the Elderly Population	34
	b. Marital Status of Elderly Women	34
	c. Female Share of the Total Economically Active Population	35
	d. Social Protection for Elderly Women	35
4.5	The Family, Community Support and Social Services	36
4.6	Potential of the Elderly - Productive Ageing	38
	List of Sources	40
	Introduction of ESCAP and JOICFP	42

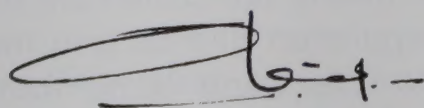
Foreword

The International Conference on Population and Development, held at Cairo in 1994, identified in its Programme of Action the need to respond to the rapidly increasing proportion and the absolute number of elderly persons in the total population. It emphasized that the economic and social impact of this "ageing of populations" is both an opportunity and a challenge to all societies.


Asia, the population of which forms more than half of the world's total, is becoming a focus in this process of population ageing. In the light of the phenomenal growth of the elderly population in the region projected for the next two decades, the Programme of Action urges that countries enhance their awareness of the multi-faceted problems faced by the elderly, and formulate early the policies and programmes necessary for dealing with them.

In response to this urgent need in the region, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the Japanese Organization for International Cooperation in Family Planning (JOICFP), with the support of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), have been collaborating closely in carrying out various activities aimed at creating greater awareness among planners and policy makers of the major issues of population ageing and in promoting policy formulation and programme development. This illustrated booklet was produced as a joint undertaking of ESCAP and JOICFP as part of the UNFPA-supported regional project on the promotion of awareness and policy formulation on ageing. The booklet is aimed at providing useful data on various social and economic issues related to population ageing in the Asian region.

We sincerely hope that this booklet will be widely utilized throughout the Asian region and in other parts of the world interested in Asian development. We are extremely grateful to Dr Toshio Kuroda of the Nihon University Population Research Institute, Tokyo, Dr Paul P. L. Cheung of the National University of Singapore, Dr Nobuyuki Hyoi of the Institute of Public Health, Ministry of Health and Welfare, Government of Japan, and all the other persons concerned for their valuable contributions and tireless efforts in the compilation of this booklet. We also wish to offer our thanks to UNFPA for making the publication of this booklet possible.



Adrianus Mooy
Executive Secretary
ESCAP

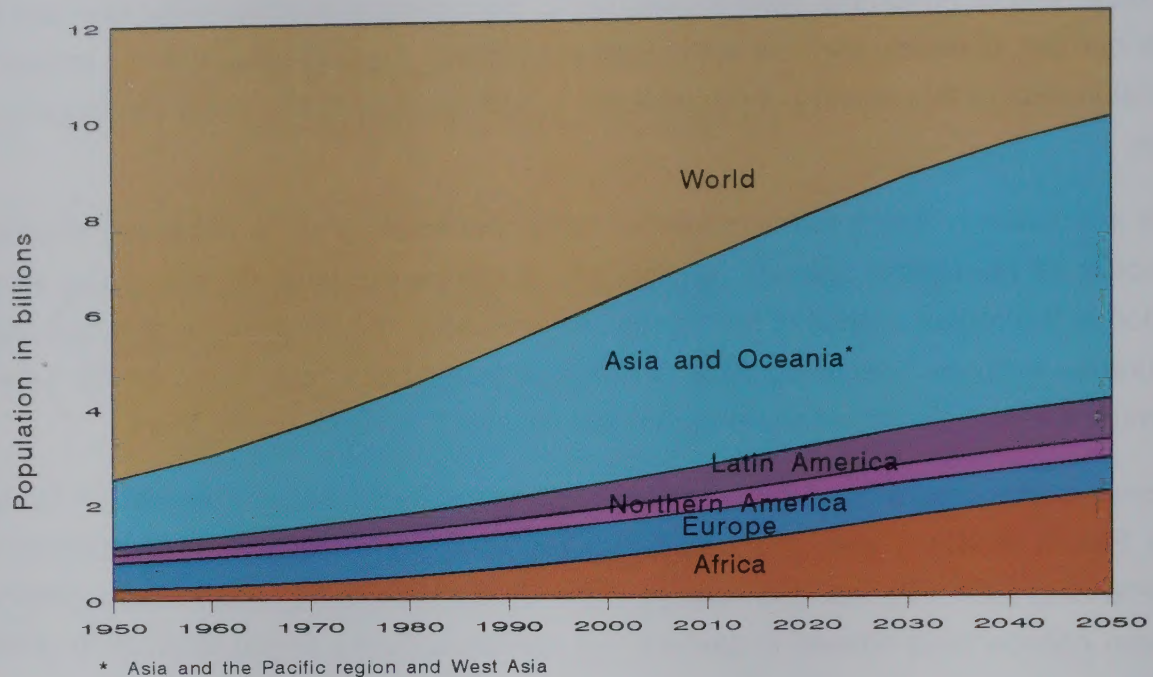


Yasuo Kon
Executive Director
JOICFP

1. Ageing - A Global Population Trend

1.1 Global Trend in Ageing

a. World Population Projections by Region

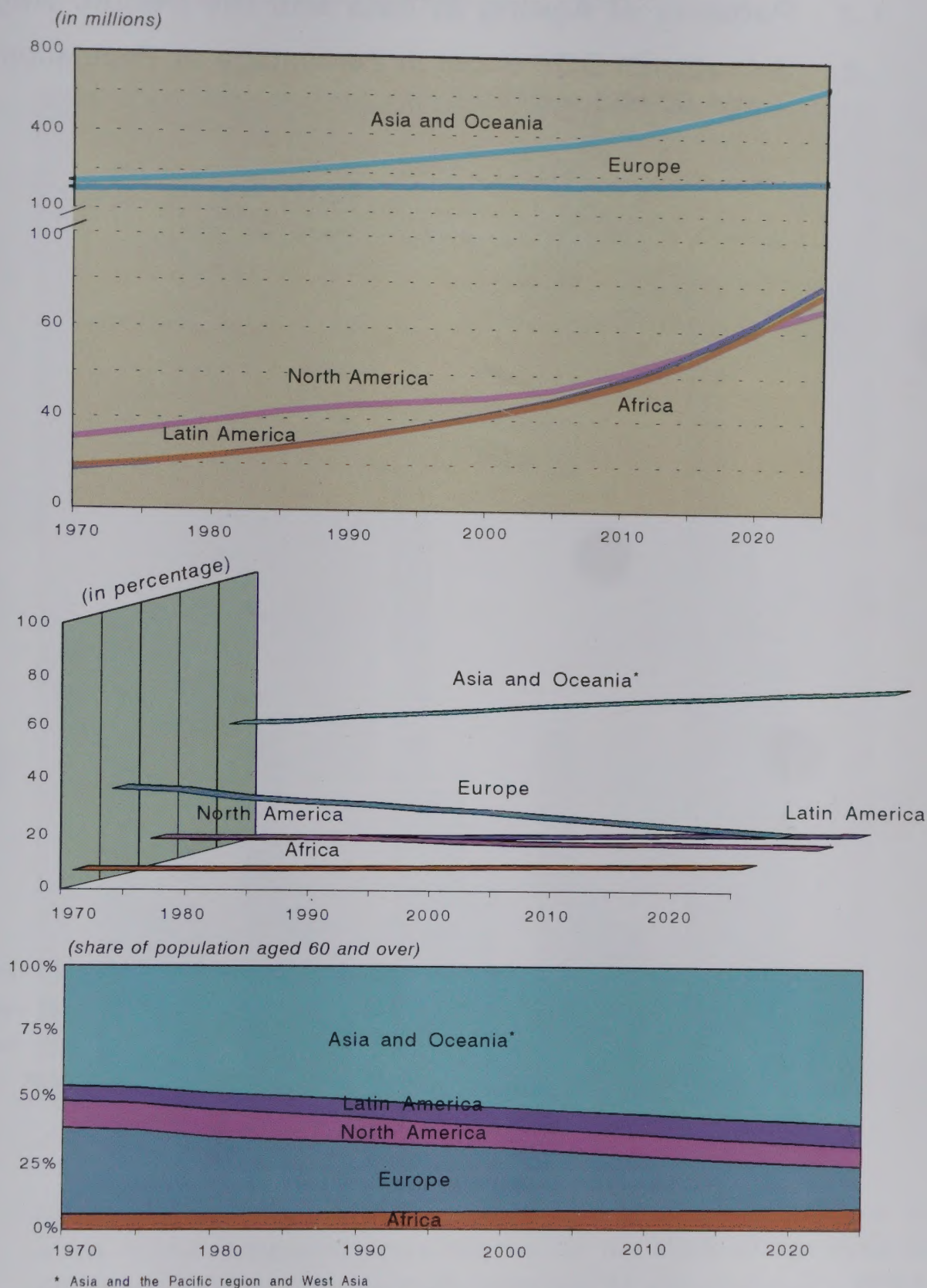


b. World Population Projections for Changes in Age Structure



The world population is projected to reach nearly ten billion by the middle of the twenty-first century. The population of Asia and the Pacific region is more than half of the world total, and its numbers are projected to reach 5.7 billion. Projected changes for the age structure involve a rise in the elderly share and a decline in the youth share (under age 15) of the world population.

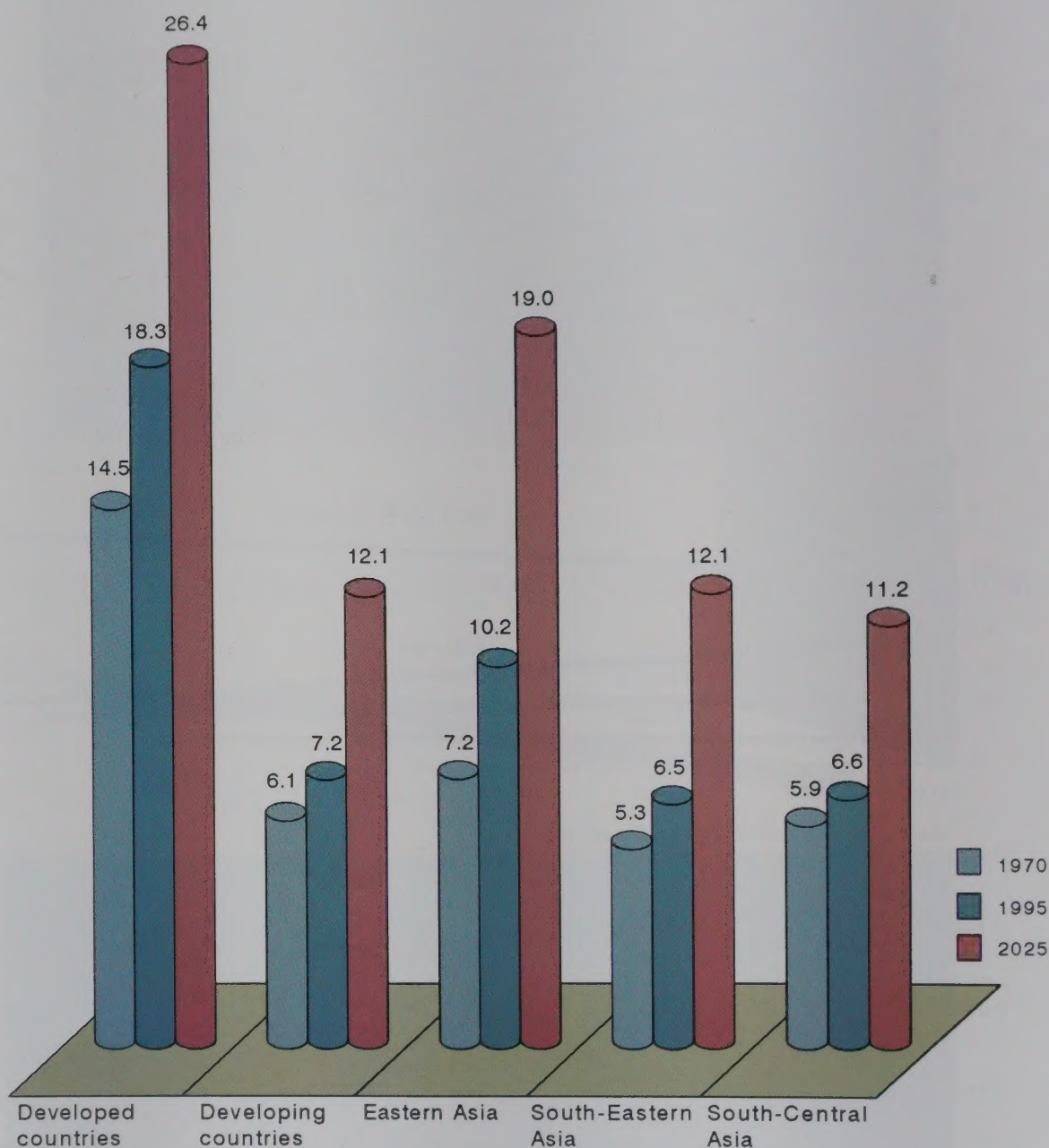
c. World Population Aged 60 and Over



Population ageing means an increase in the elderly share of the total population. The number of elderly in Asia and the Pacific region is expected to rise dramatically and, as a result, constitute an increasing majority of the world total.

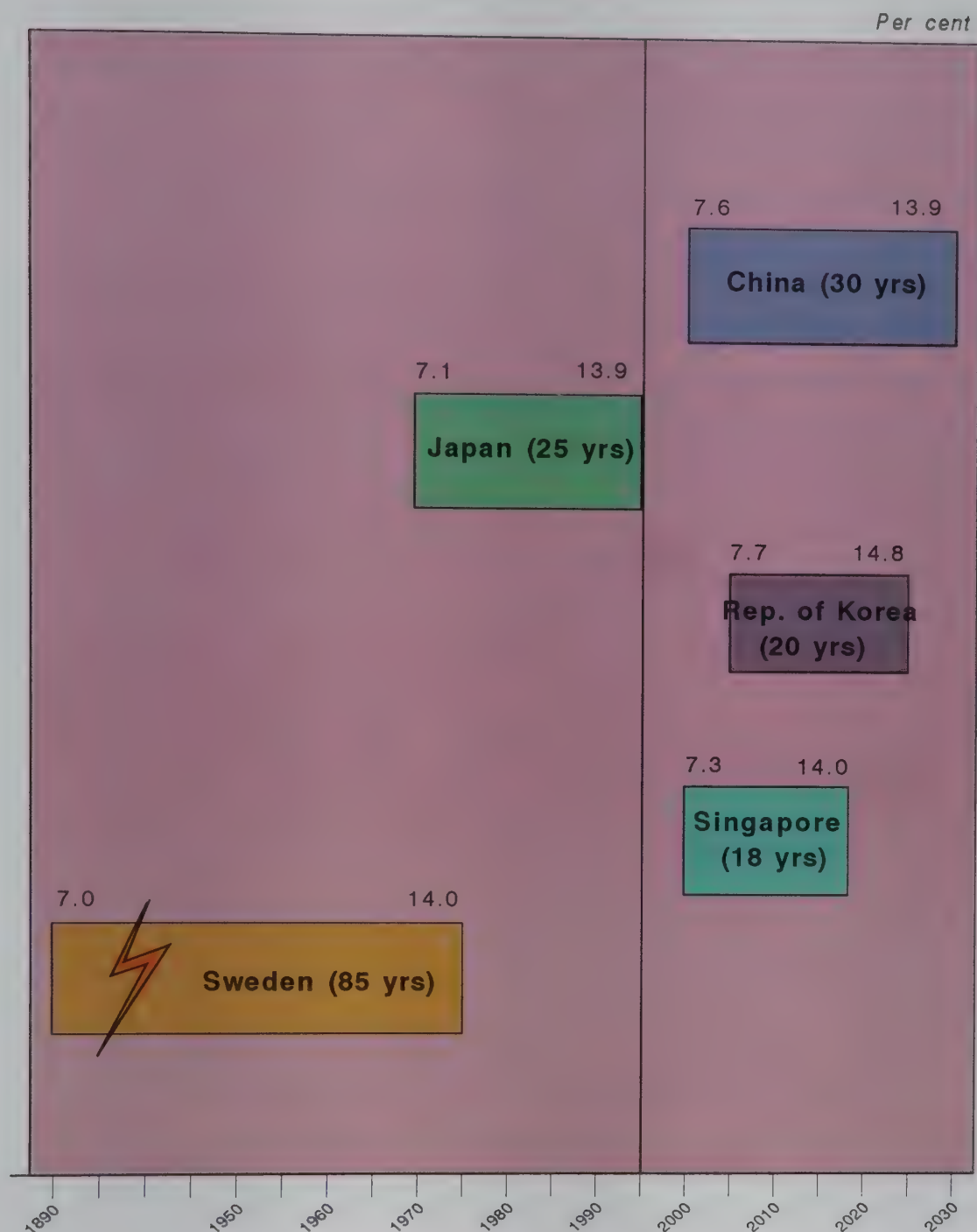
1.2 Patterns of Ageing in Asia and the Pacific Region

a. Subregional Differences in Percentage of Population Aged 60 and over



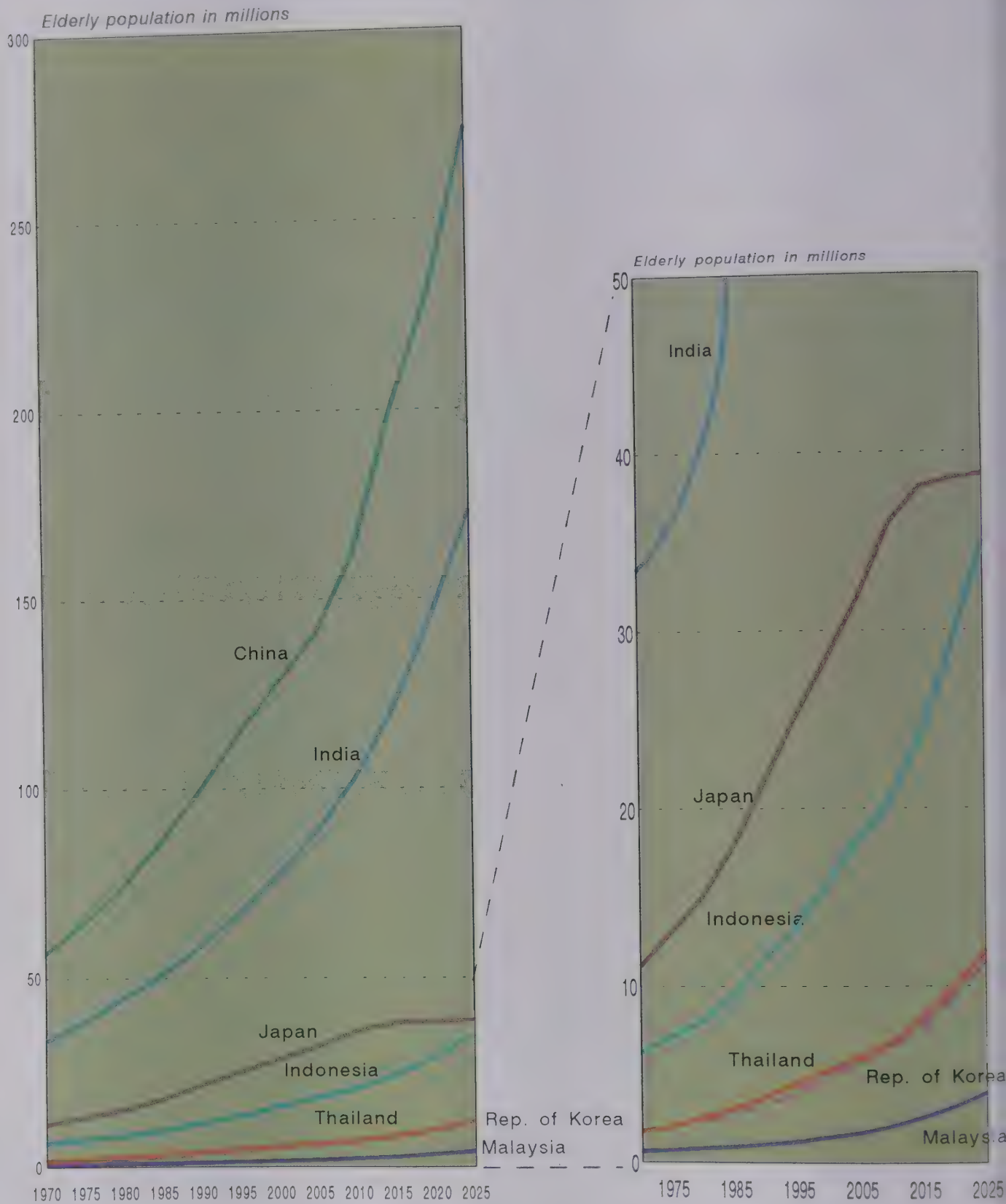
The elderly share of the total population is mounting in developed countries. It is projected to increase at varying rates in Asian sub-regions, with the most rapid growth expected in East Asia.

b. Rapidity of the Population Ageing Process



Rapidity in the process of population ageing may be compared in terms of the number of years needed for the share of aged people (65 years and over) to increase from 7 to 14 per cent. Countries in this region are ageing more rapidly than did those in the west where the elderly now comprise a sizeable share of the total population.

c. Dramatic Rise of the Elderly Population

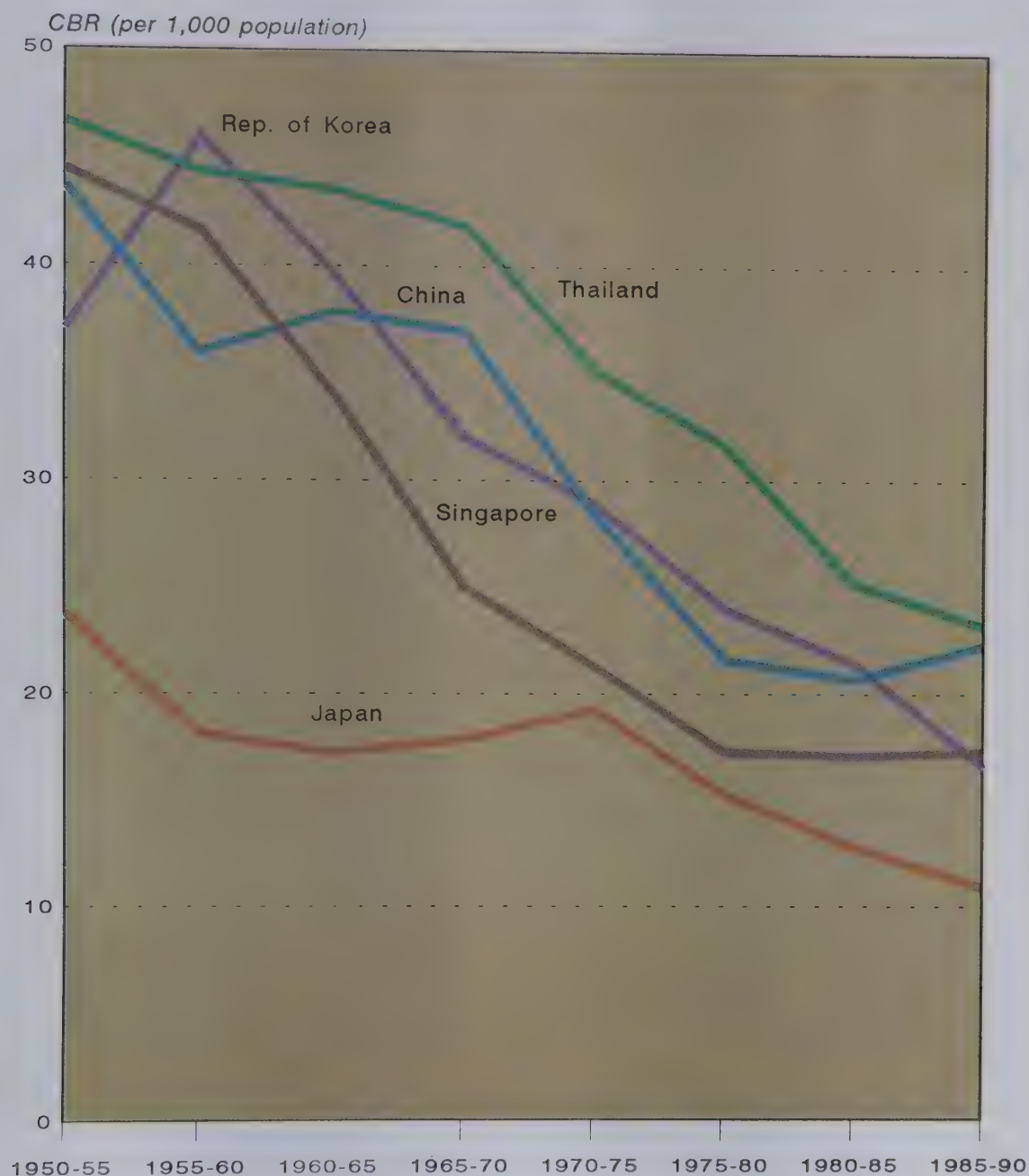


While the numbers of elderly are expected to go up in all countries, China and India are major contributors to this increase for the region.

2. Population Dynamics and Ageing

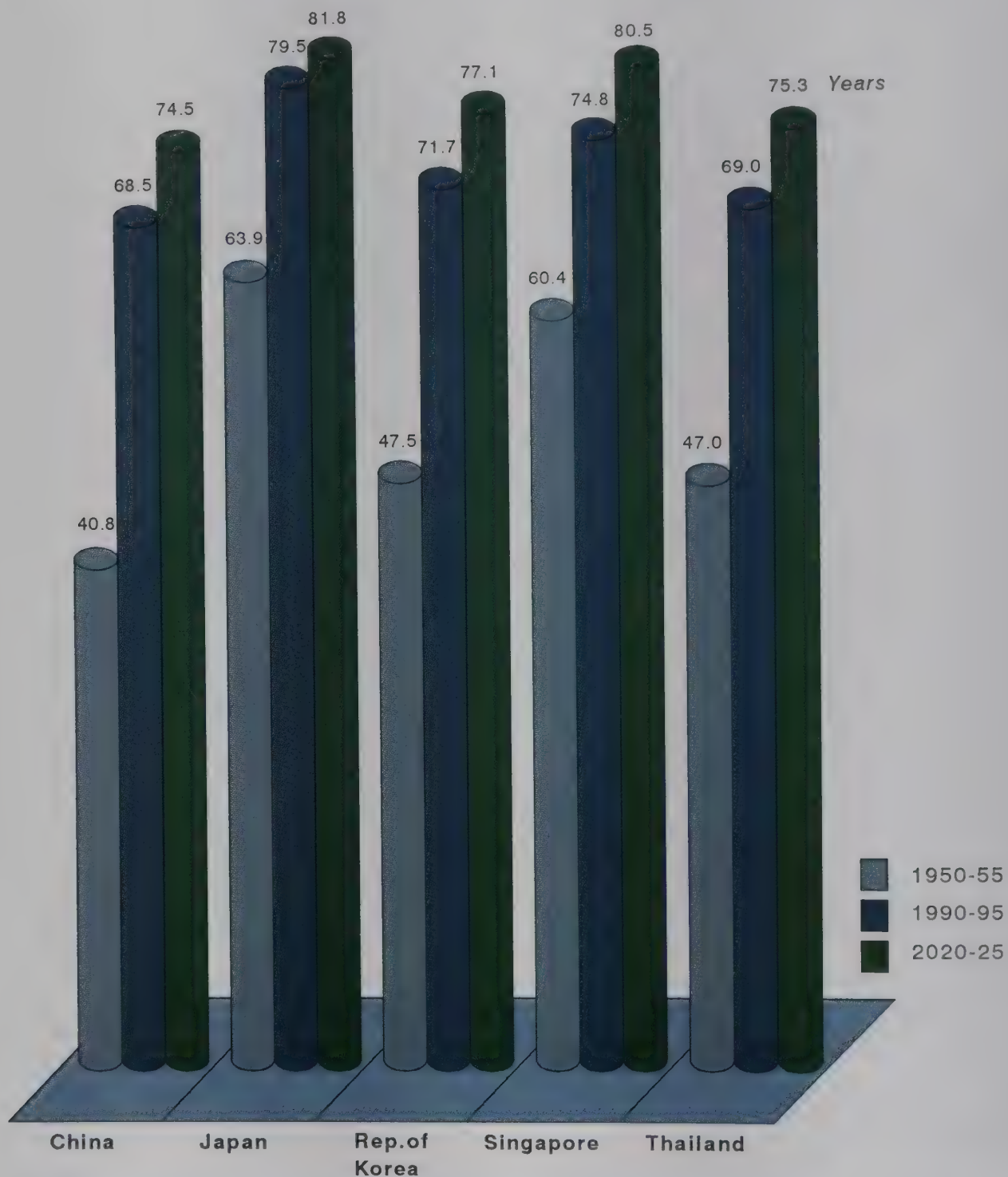
2.1 The Process of Population Ageing

a. Declining Crude Birth Rate



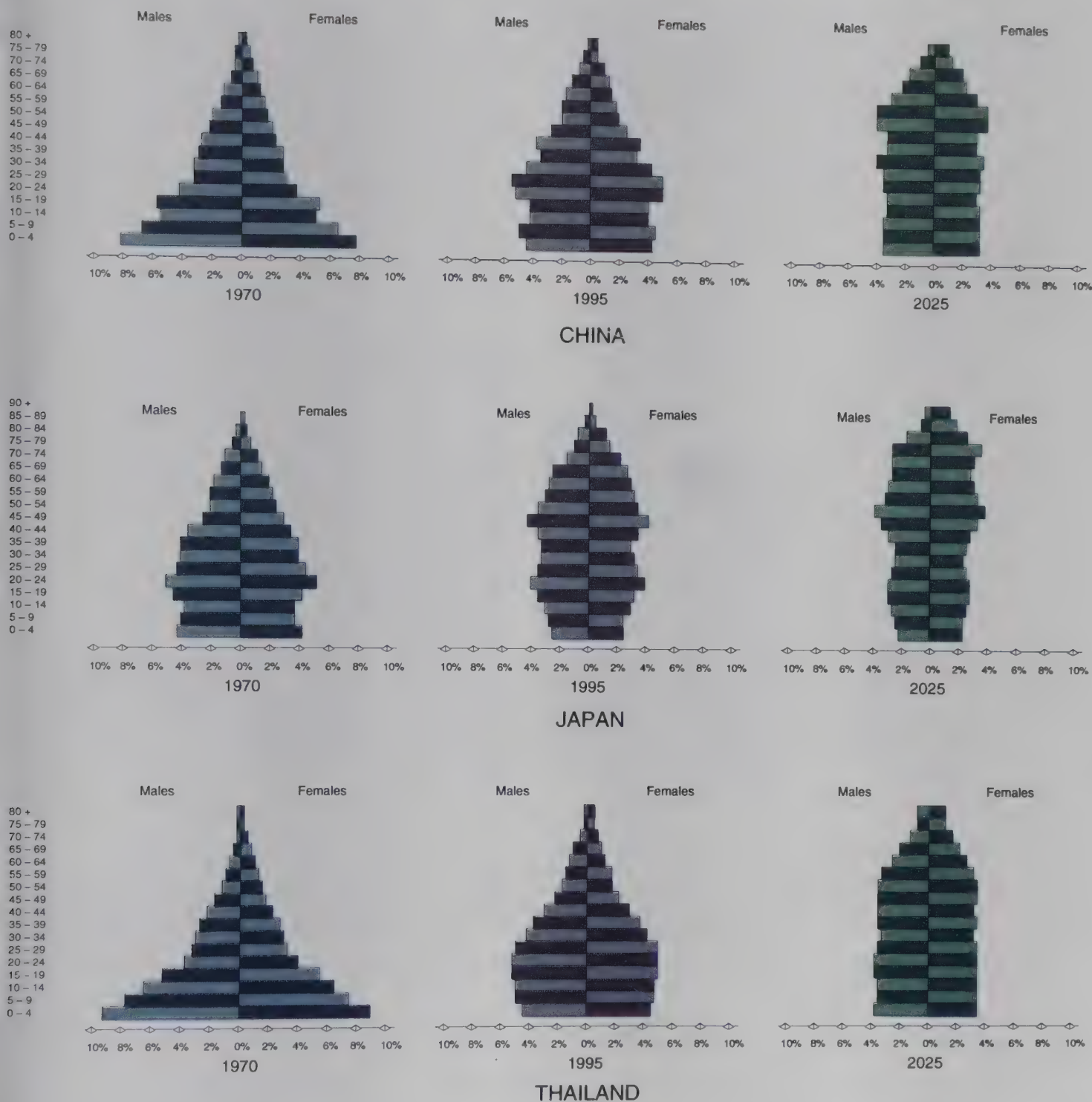
Population ageing is the inevitable result of the demographic transition associated with declining birth and death rates. It is especially influenced by falling birth rates. Many countries in the region experienced rapid declines in birth rates during the second half of the twentieth century.

b. Changes in Life Expectancy at Birth



Life expectancy is increasing in countries of the region, albeit at different rates. Such increases are due to declines in mortality, initially in infant mortality. Declines in mortality among the elderly also contribute to the process of population ageing.

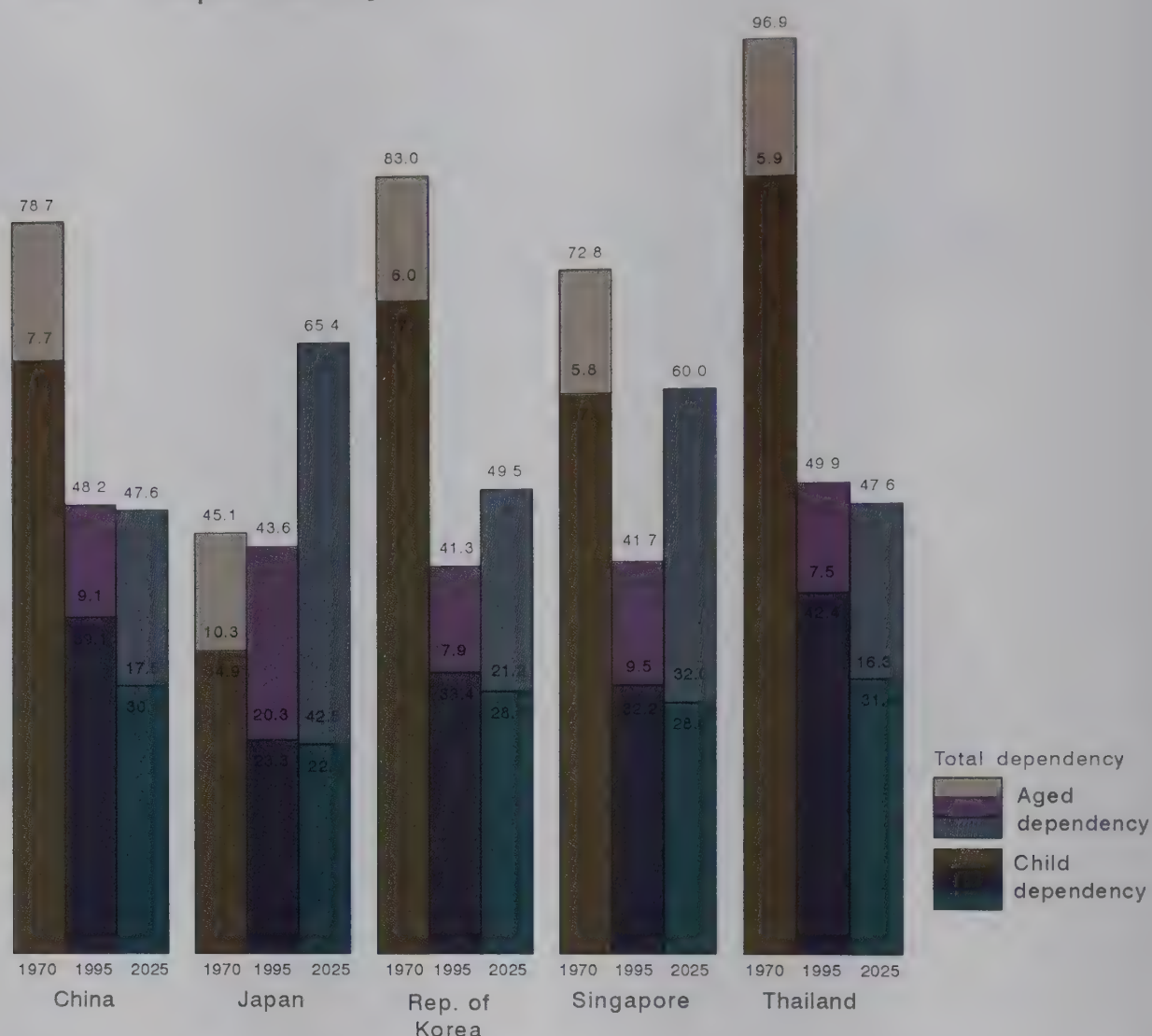
2.2 Changes in Population Structure



Age structures undergo transformation during the process of population ageing. Their shapes are changing from a pyramid in the 1970s towards a bell in the twenty-first century.

2.3 Ageing and Dependency

a. Dependency Ratios*



The total dependency ratio combines the child and aged dependency ratios. It is an important measure of the relationship between the size of the working-age population (aged 15-64 years) and the dependent populations of children (under age 15 years) and the elderly (aged 65 and over). The ratio highlights the burden on the working-aged population for simultaneously supporting children and the elderly.

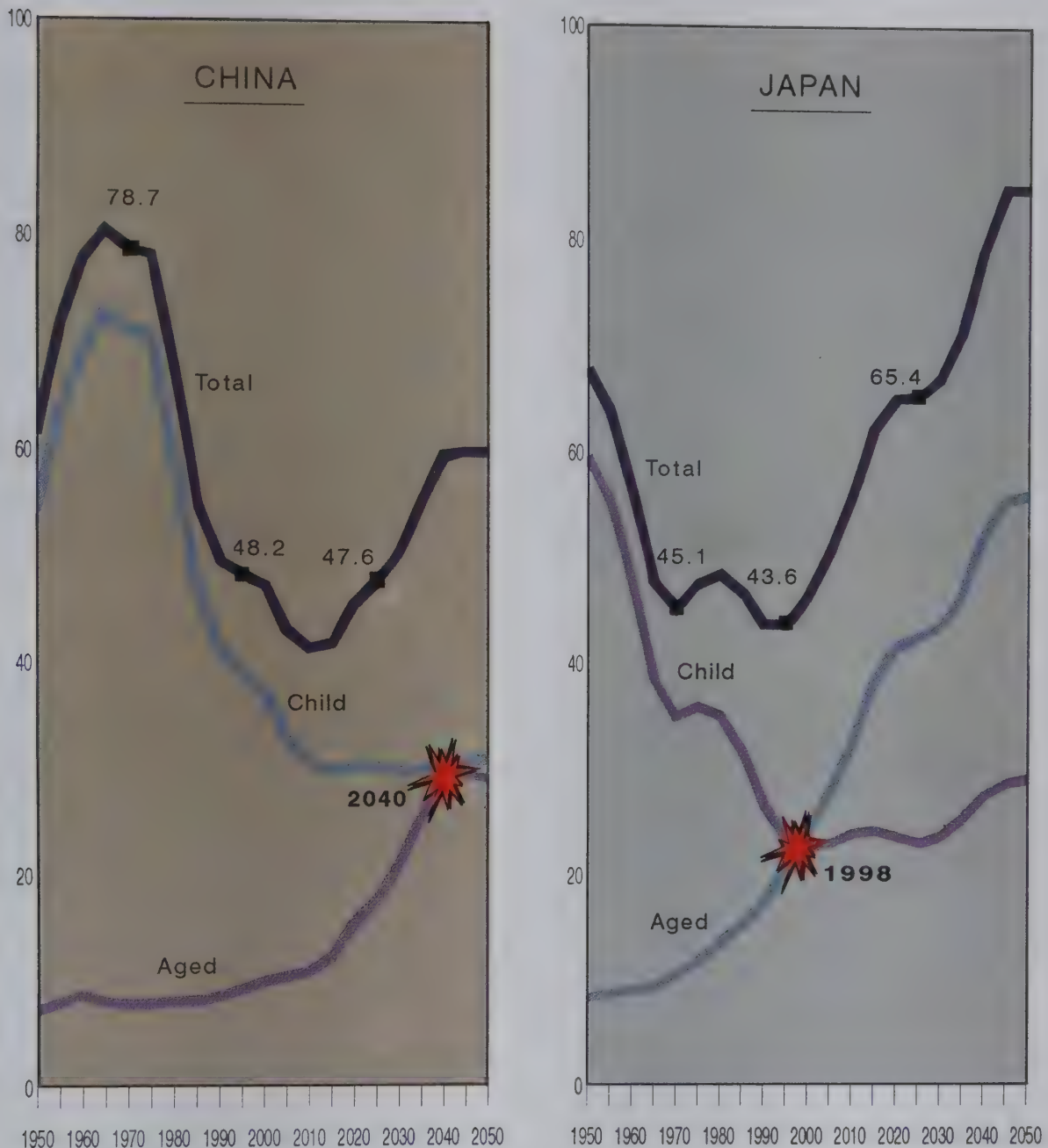
* Note:

$$\text{Total dependency ratio} = \frac{(\text{population aged 0-14}) + (\text{population aged 65 and over})}{\text{population aged 15-64}} \times 100$$

$$\text{Aged dependency ratio} = \frac{\text{population aged 65 and over}}{\text{population aged 15-64}} \times 100$$

$$\text{Child dependency ratio} = \frac{\text{population aged 0-14}}{\text{population aged 15-64}} \times 100$$

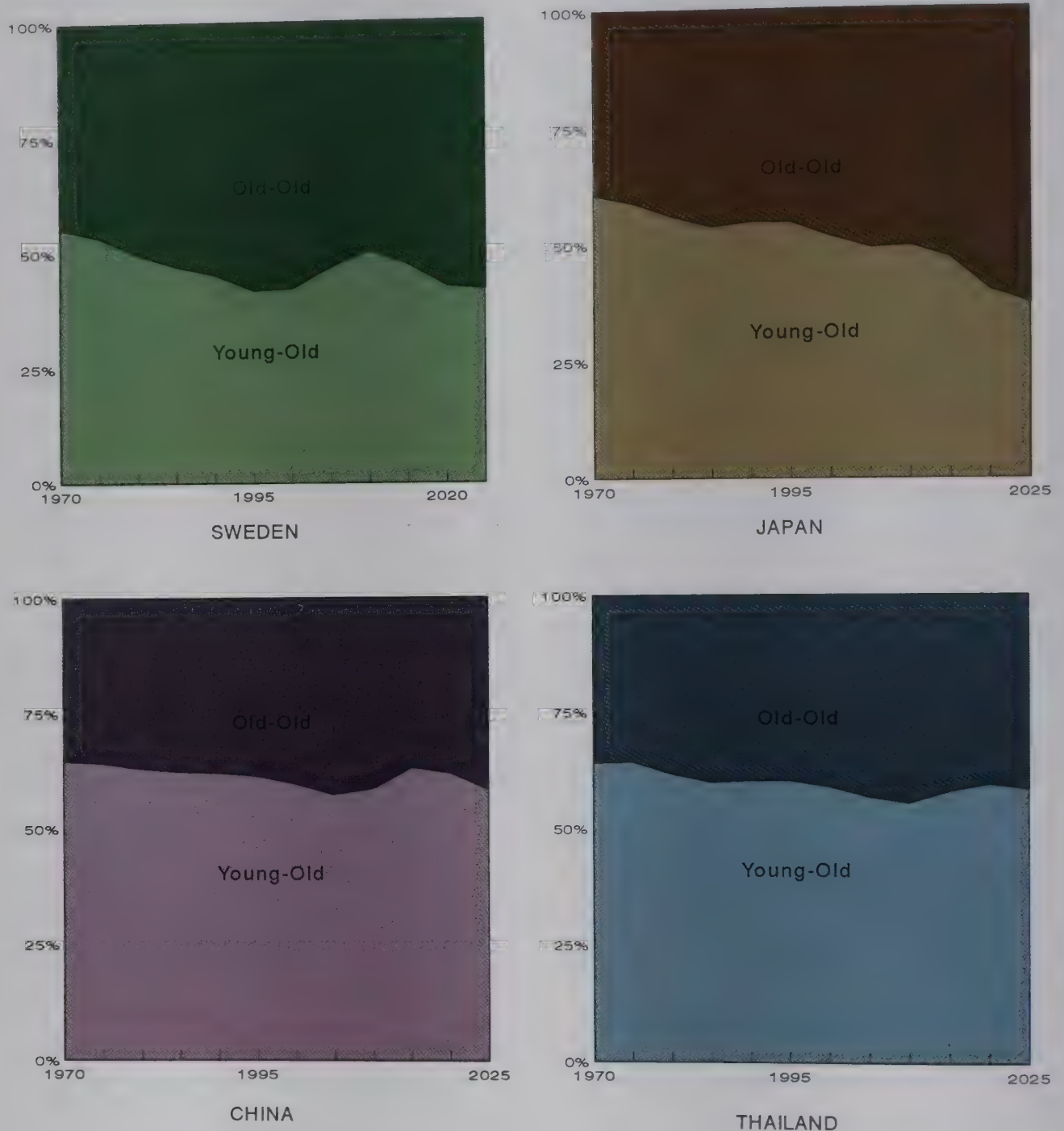
b. Trends of Dependency Ratios (Child versus Aged)



As birth rates fall, child dependency ratios decline and, thereby, contribute to an initial reduction of total dependency ratios. During the process of population ageing, aged dependency ratios increase. This combination of trends contributes to an initial reduction and, thereafter, to a dramatic increase in total dependency ratios, particularly into the twenty-first century.

2.4 Changing Pattern of "Old-Old" and "Young-Old"

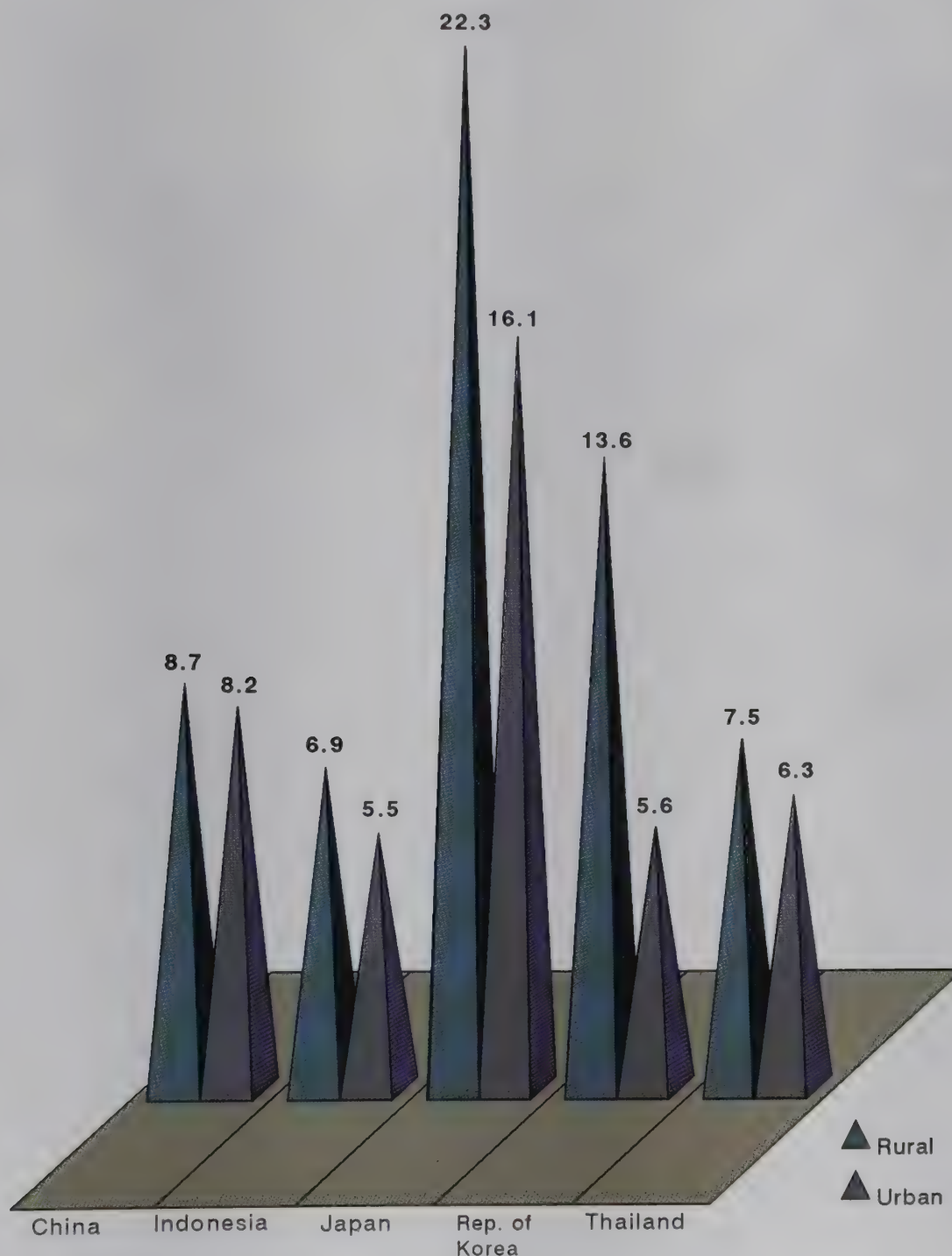
An Increase of the "Old-Old" Share of the Elderly Population



The process of population ageing involves an increase in the old-old (70 years and over) share of the elderly population. Since the consequences of ageing are different for the old-old and the young-old (aged 60-69) elderly, it becomes important to take account of the needs and concerns of both age groups in the formulation of policies and programmes.

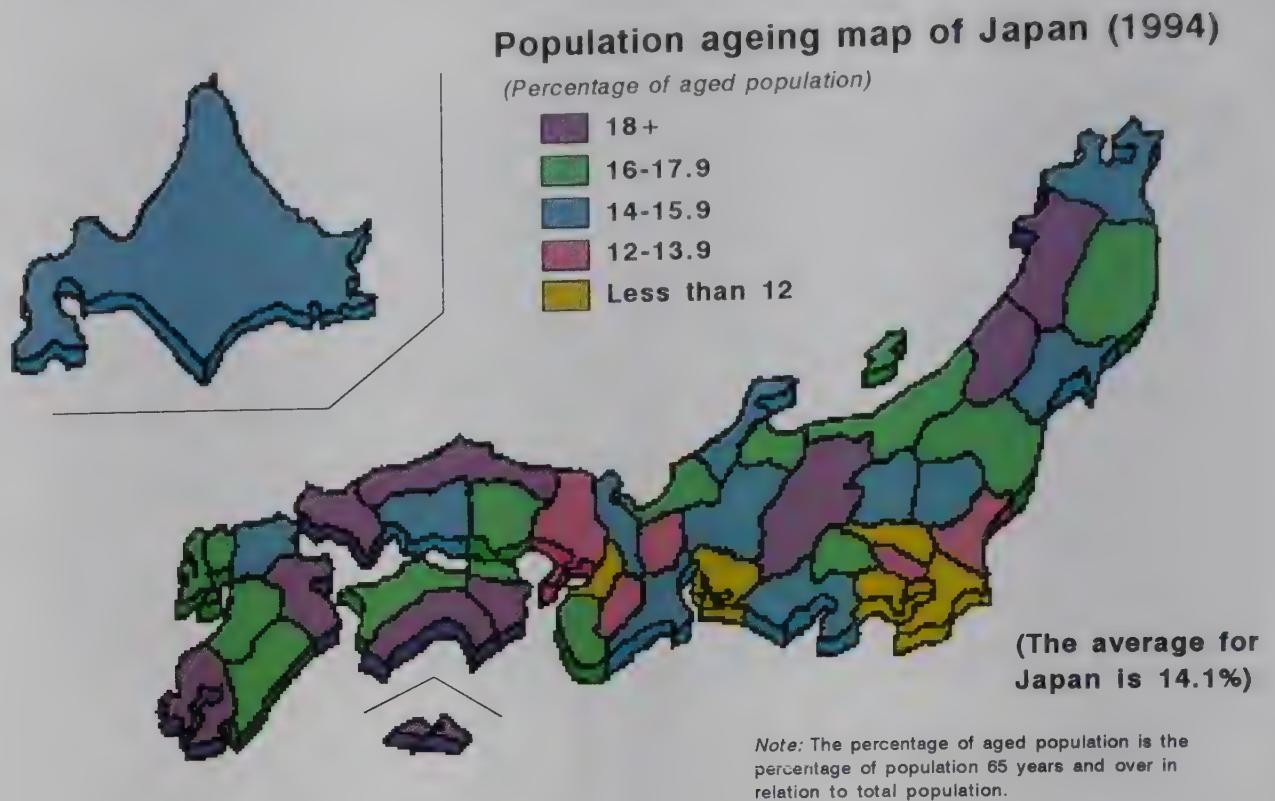
2.5 Sub-national Differences in Ageing

- a. Percentage of Aged (60 and over) in Rural and Urban Areas, 1990

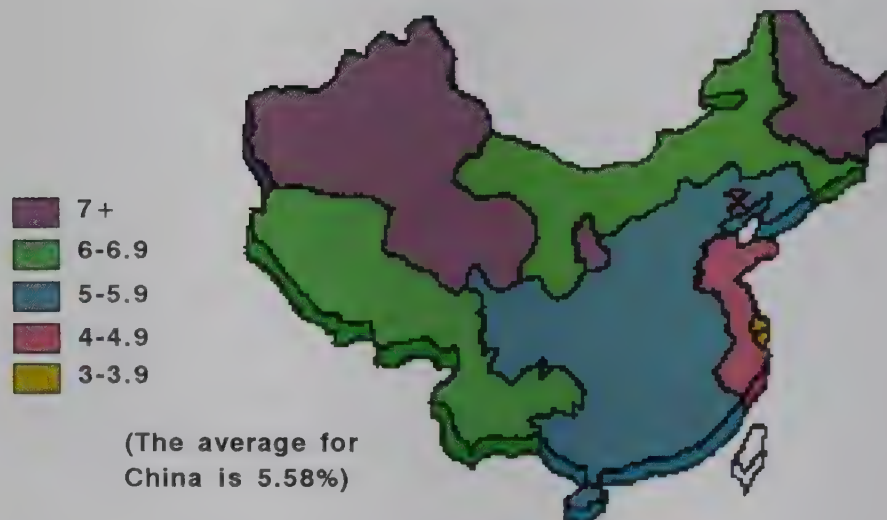


Consequences of population ageing may differ in rural and urban areas. It thus is meaningful to consider various factors, including declines in total fertility and changes in migration patterns.

b. Population Ageing Map



Population ageing map of China (1990)

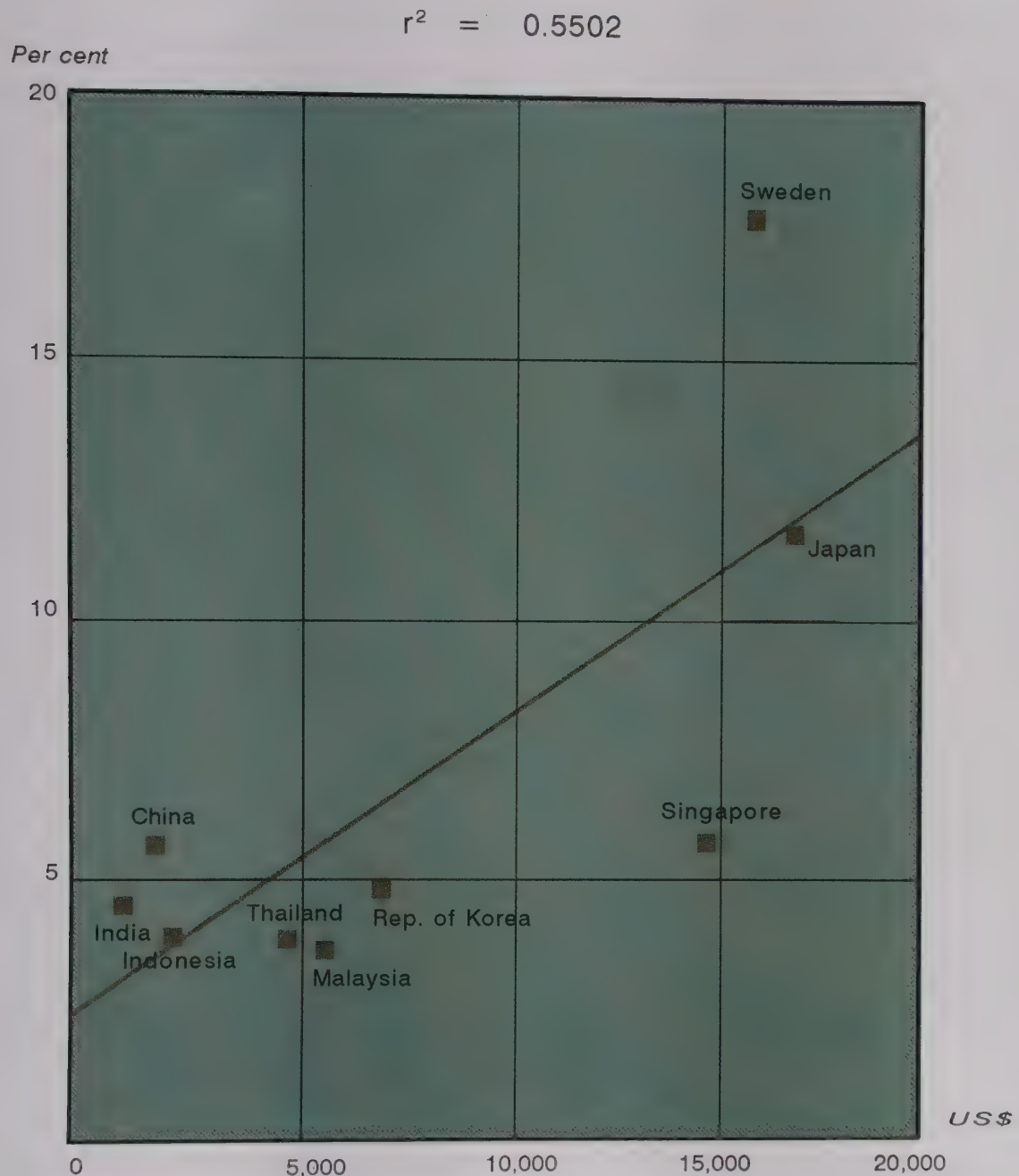


The examples of China and Japan highlight the potential for diversity in the process of population ageing within countries. This process may be more rapid in rural areas than in urban areas due to rural to urban migration. Its rapidity in China also results from major declines in fertility, which are due to effective family planning programmes in urban areas, such as Shanghai.

3. Socio-economic Implications of Ageing

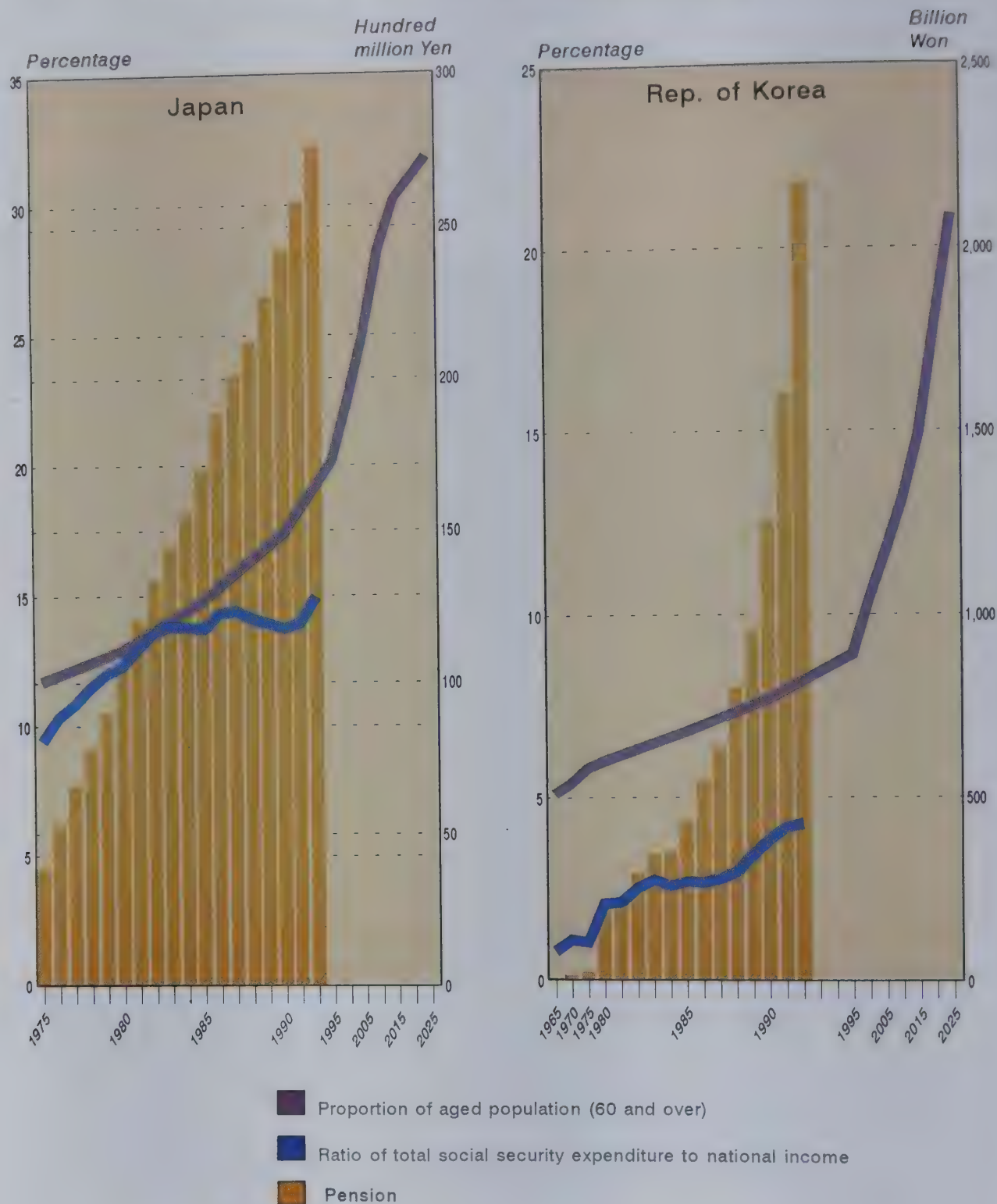
3.1 Impact of Ageing on the Economy

- a. Relationship between Percentage of Population over Age 65 and Per Capita Income (us dollars), 1990



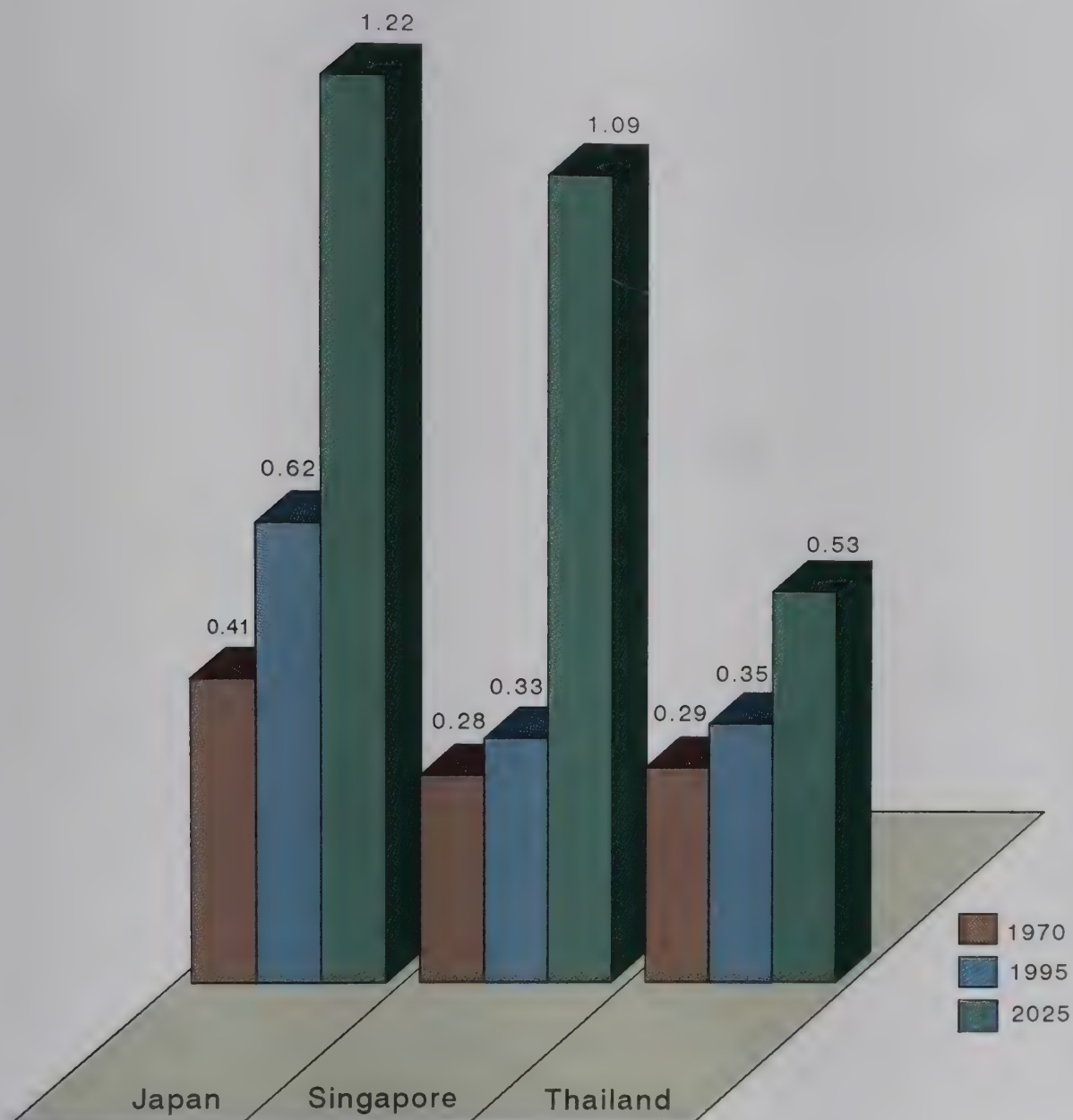
Currently, countries with higher per capita national incomes are at a more advanced stage in the process of population ageing.

b. Social Security and the National Economy



The process of population ageing may impel substantial increases in expenditures for social security as a share of national income. Total expenditures shown for Japan and the Republic of Korea include the combined cost of medical care, pension, and other social welfare services.

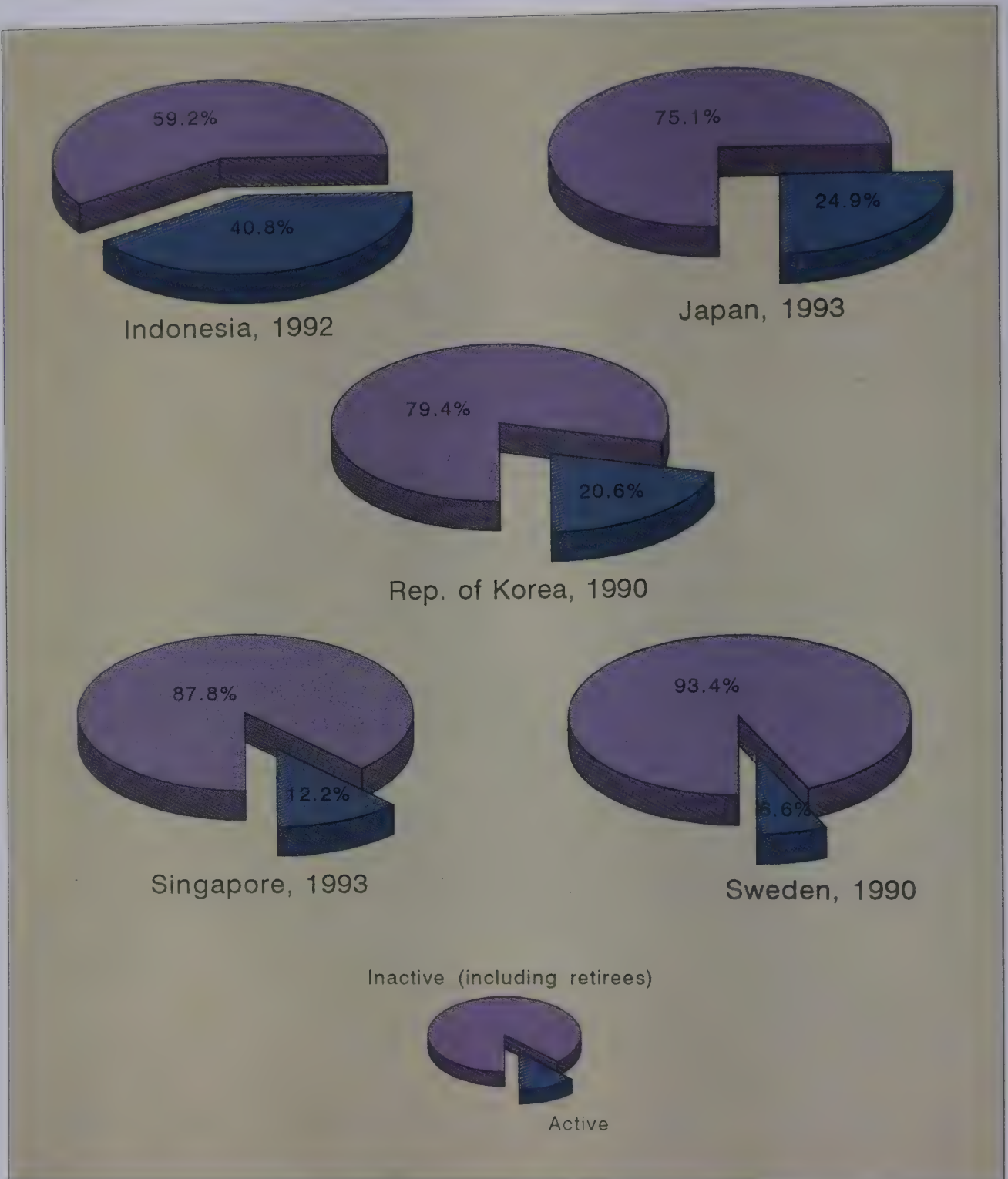
3.2 Ratio of the Elderly Population Supported by the Middle-Age Population



Among the working-age population (aged 15-64), the middle-age population (aged 40-54) forms the core of the total labour force. With population ageing (aged 65 and over), the people in this middle core increasingly shoulder a double burden of simultaneously supporting their children and their elderly parents. As it does in Japan and Singapore, this burden will increase into the twenty-first century.

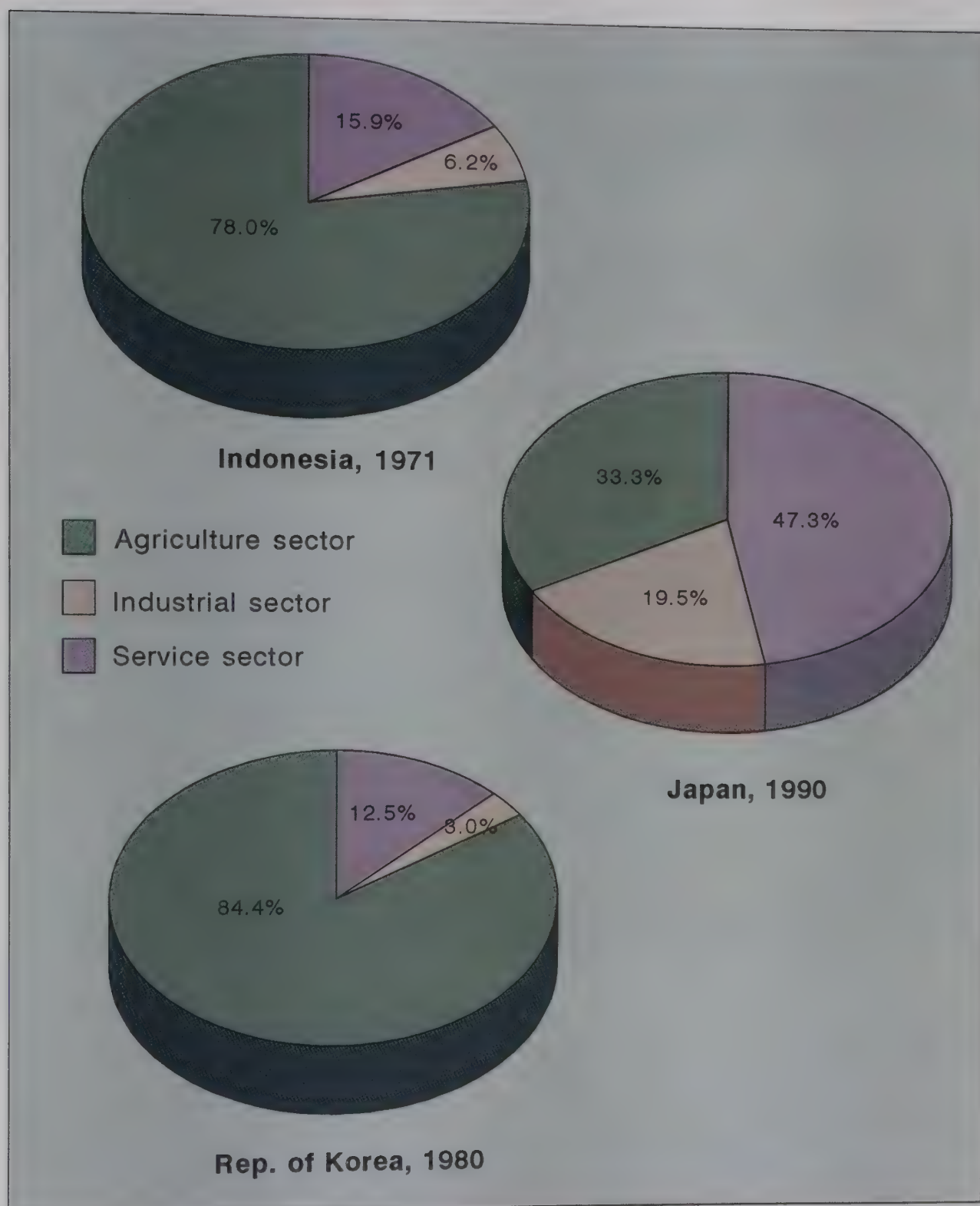
3.3 Economically Active Elderly

a. Active and Inactive Elderly



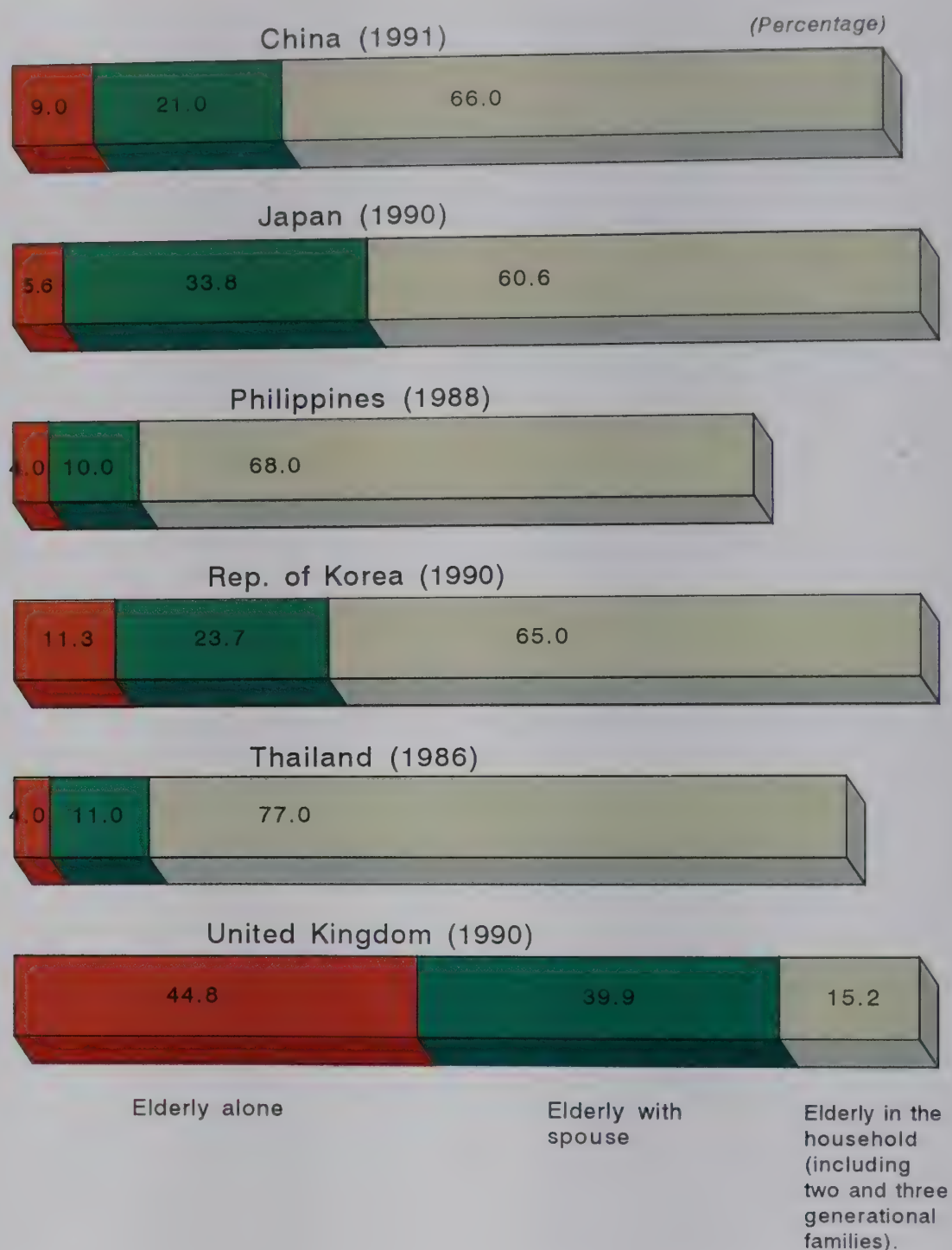
A substantial share of the region's elderly remains economically active. This continued activity contrasts with much lower levels of elderly activity in western countries.

b. Sector of Economic Activity



Economic activity among the region's elderly is concentrated in the agricultural sector where many elderly women and men remain self-employed.

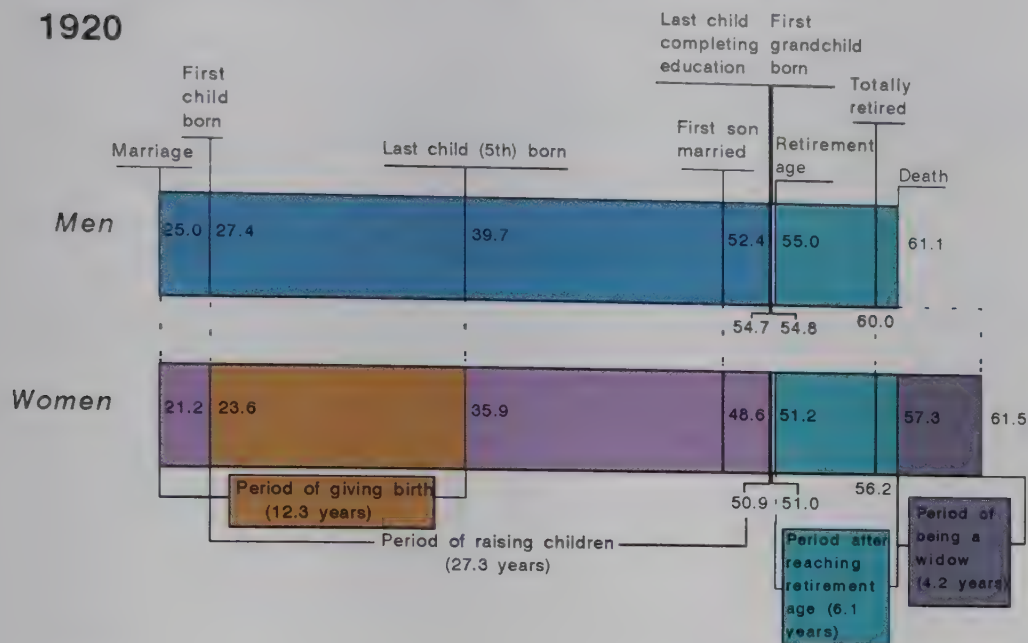
3.4 Living Arrangement of the Aged Population



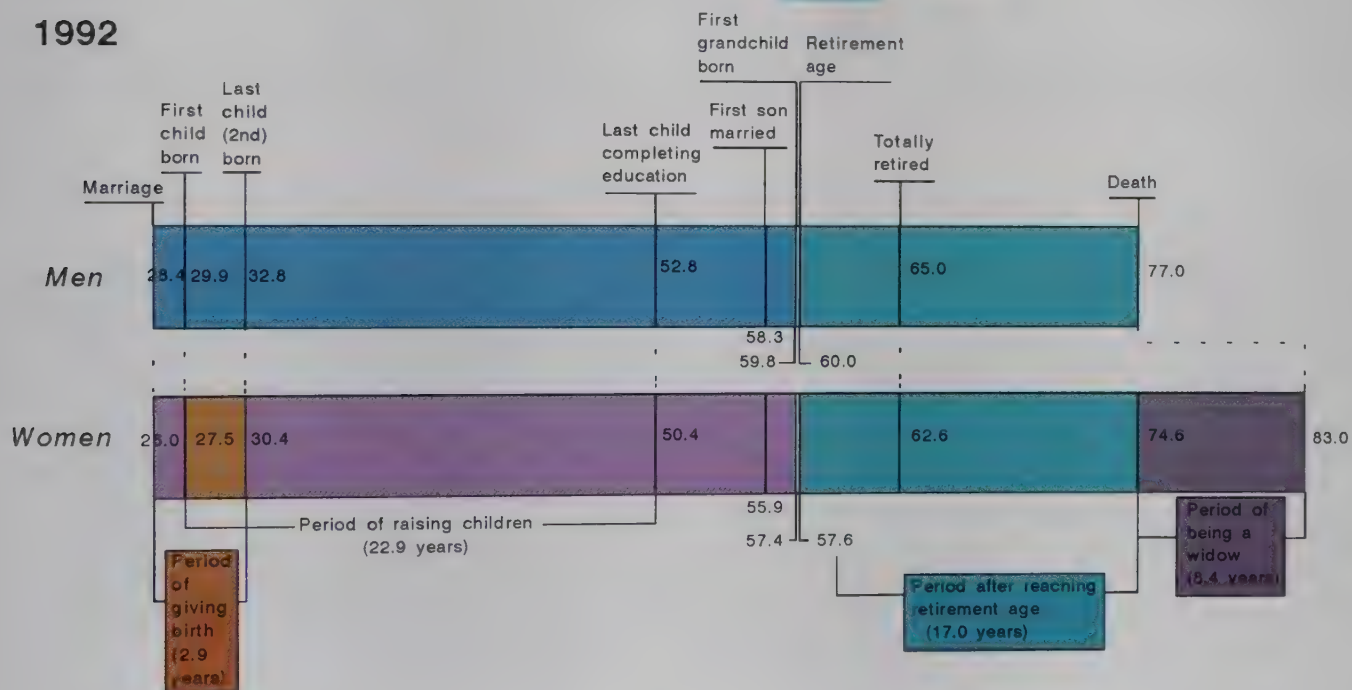
The overwhelming majority of elderly men and women in Asia and the Pacific region continue to live with their children. Elderly couples, however, are increasingly living alone. Many elderly women also live alone, and their numbers are also increasing.

3.5 The Family Life Cycle in Japan

1920



1992

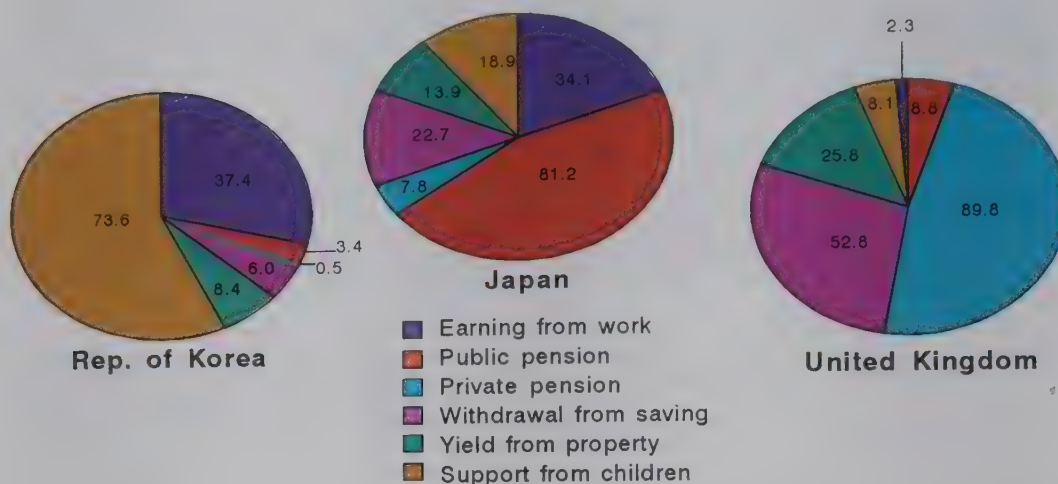


Lifecycle changes for women and men in Japan illustrate trends underway in Asia and the Pacific region. For women, the period of giving birth declines dramatically. As life expectancy increases for women and men, there is a longer period following retirement. Women not only live longer than men, they are also more likely to be widowed because of customary age differences between husbands and wives. Children support and care for elderly parents during longer periods, and the period during which people live as three-generational families increases dramatically.

4. Current Issues of Population Ageing

4.1 Economic Security

a. Source of the Financial Support



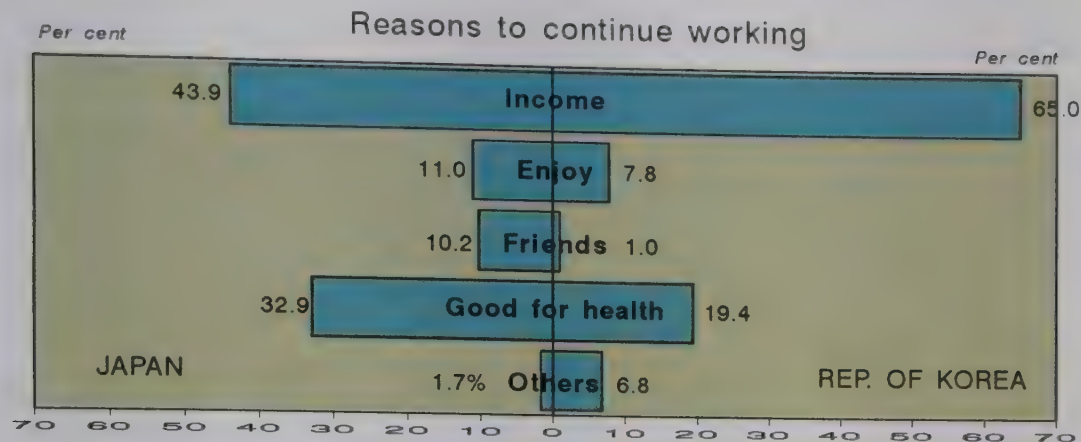
At present there is major diversity in the source of financial support for the region's elderly.

b. Social Support Schemes

<i>Provident Fund</i>	<i>Social Insurance</i>	<i>Social Assistance</i>
India	China	Indonesia
Indonesia	India	India
Malaysia	Indonesia	Malaysia
Singapore	Japan	Rep. of Korea
Sri Lanka	Malaysia	Sri Lanka
Thailand	Philippines	
	Rep. of Korea	
	Sri Lanka	
	Thailand	
	Viet Nam	

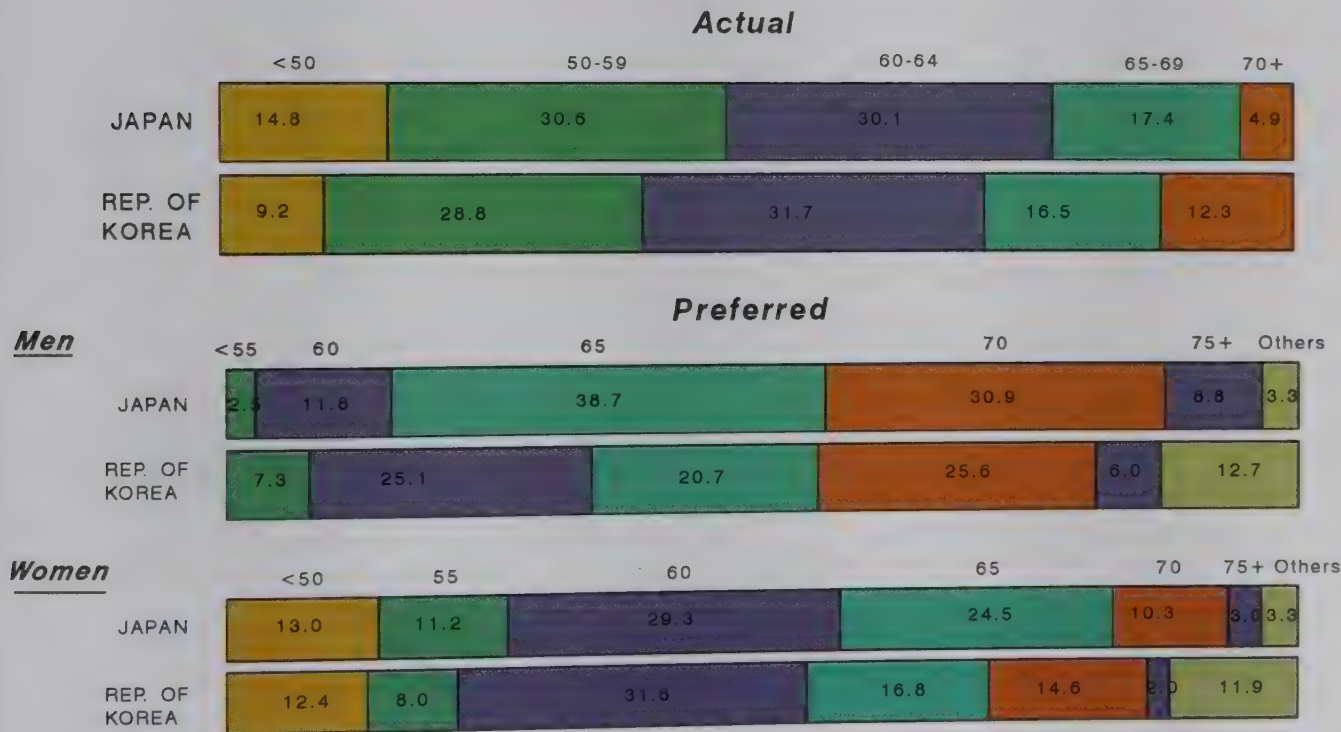
There are major differences in the financing techniques for social protection of the region's elderly and for their widowed survivors. Many developing countries depend on provident funds alone for retirement benefits. A large number of them use provident funds, social insurance and social assistance in different ways, and sometimes in combination. Public employees have the most extensive coverage. Schemes are extremely limited for employees in the private sector, and social protection is rare for the self-employed, especially in the informal sector. Since they are often without any form of social protection, women in the region are particularly vulnerable.

c. Attitude towards Working



Many elderly men and women in Asia and the Pacific region view continued economic activity as a source of income, enjoyment and good health.

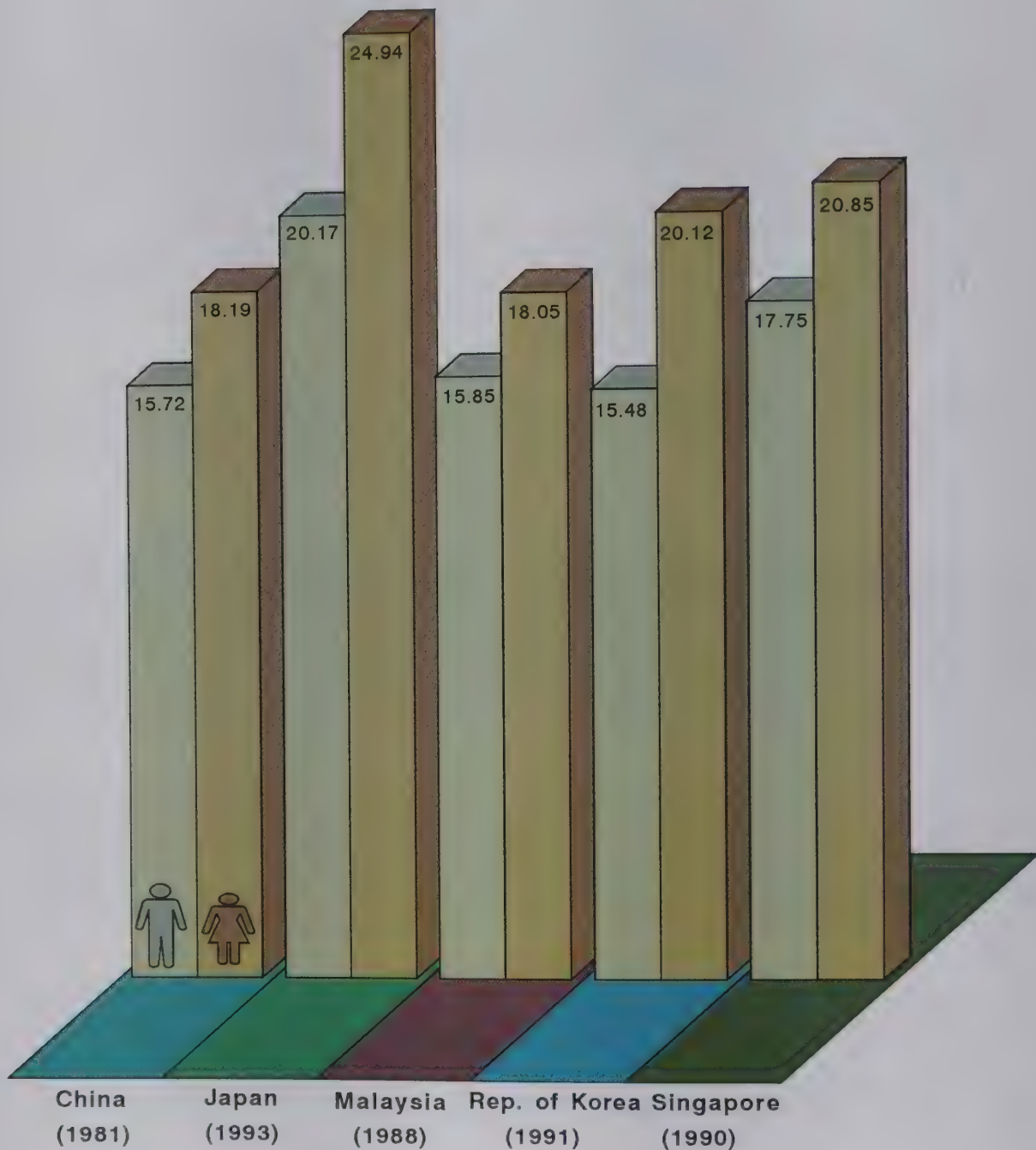
d. Actual versus Preferred Retirement Age (percentage distribution)



Actual retirement age may differ from the norm established by national legislation. The preferred age for retirement may vary among the elderly, as it does between women and men in Japan and the Republic of Korea. There also may be substantial support for delaying retirement.

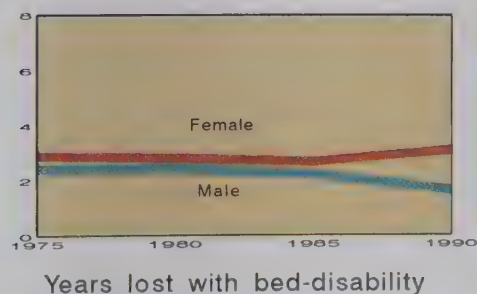
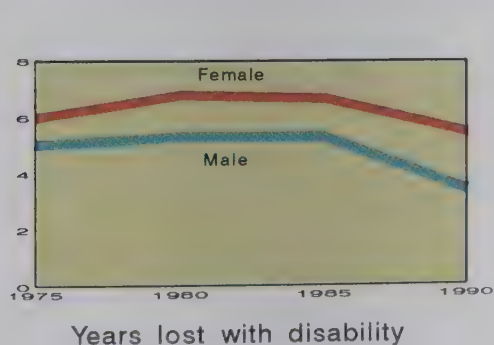
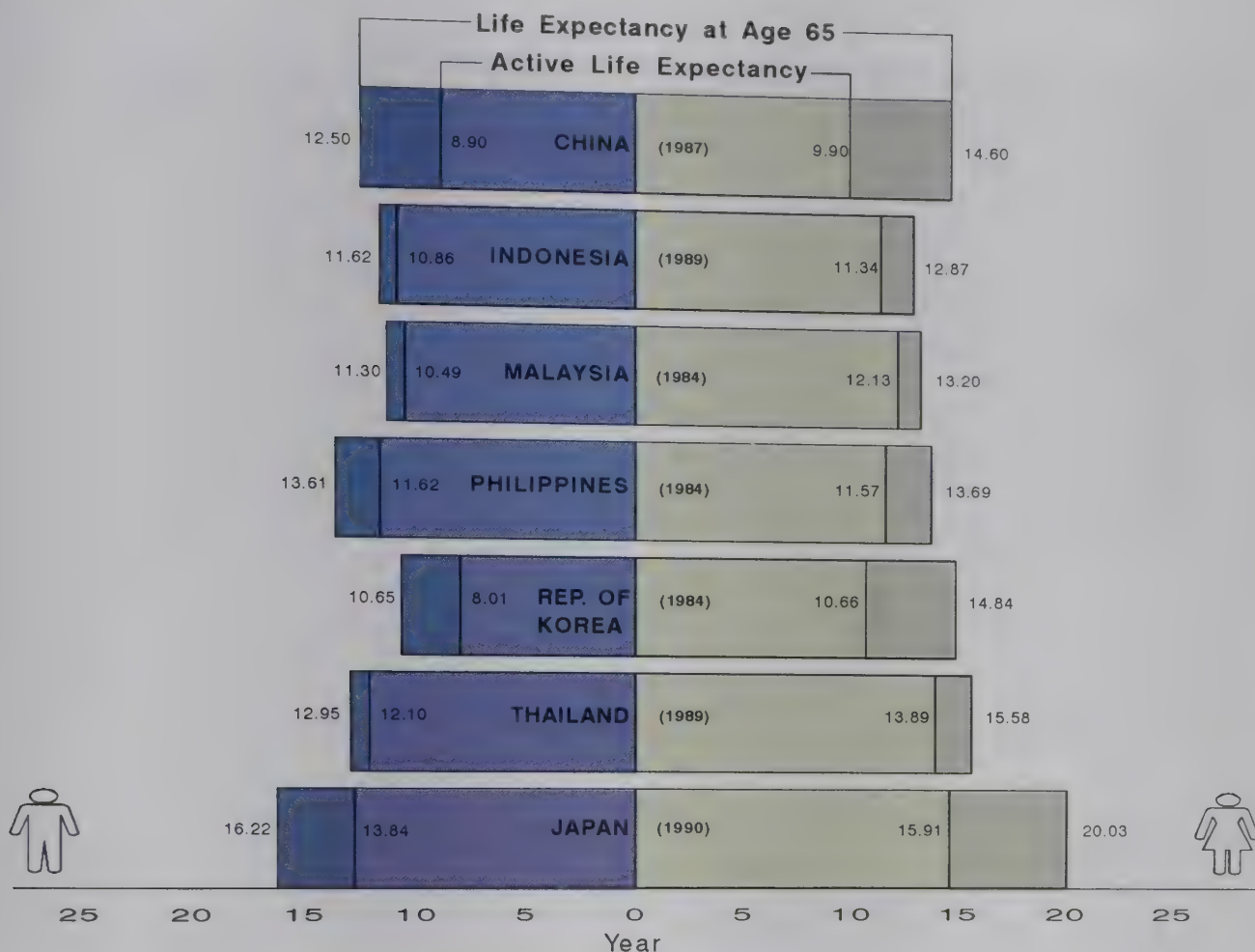
4.2 Health and Health Care of the Elderly

a. Life Expectancy at Age 60 Years



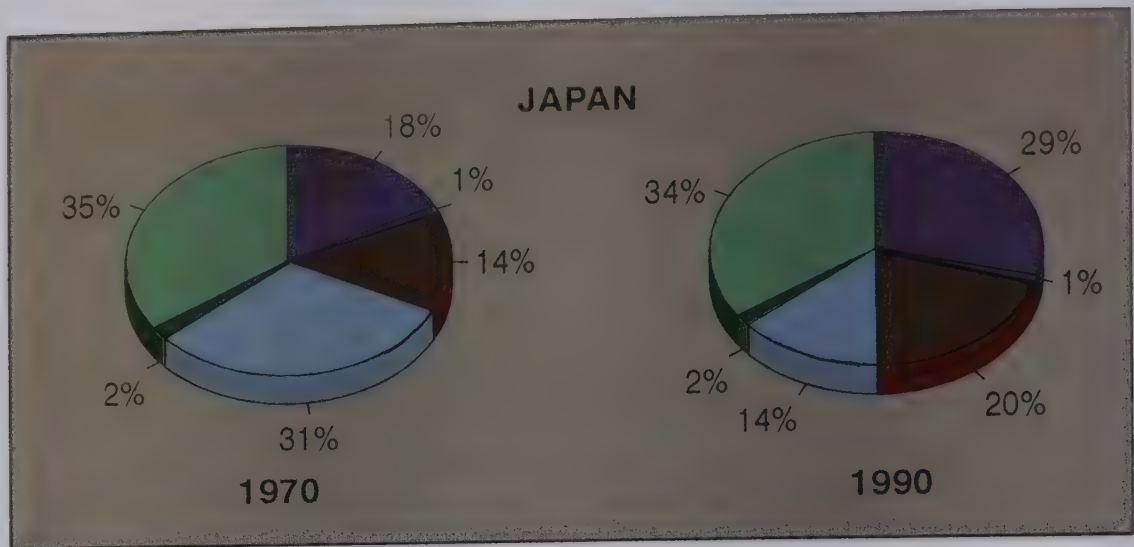
Increases in life expectancy extend the elderly period of the total lifecycle. There is a need to plan for this extension, and for the consequences of women living longer than men.

b. Active Life Expectancy

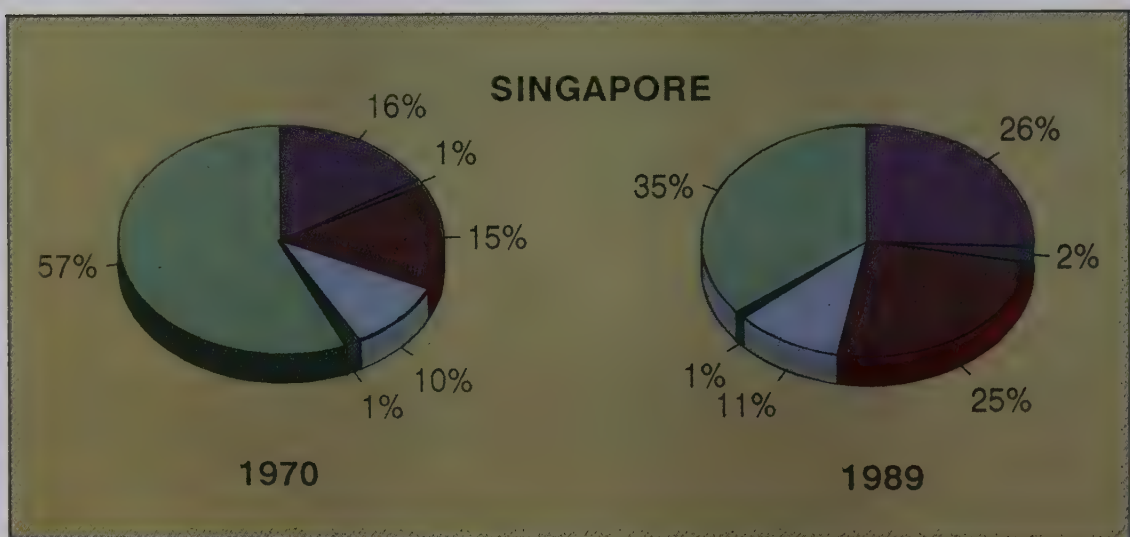
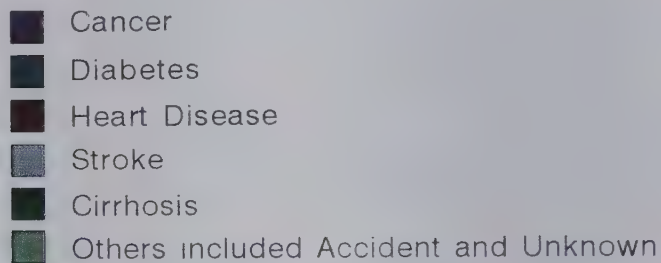


Most elderly men and women are free from disability and, thus, enjoy years of active life after age 60. However, disabilities and bed-ridden disabilities increase with age. Women experience more years with disability and especially bed-ridden disability than men, as illustrated by Japan, due to their longer life expectancy.

c. Changes in Mortality Patterns among the Elderly







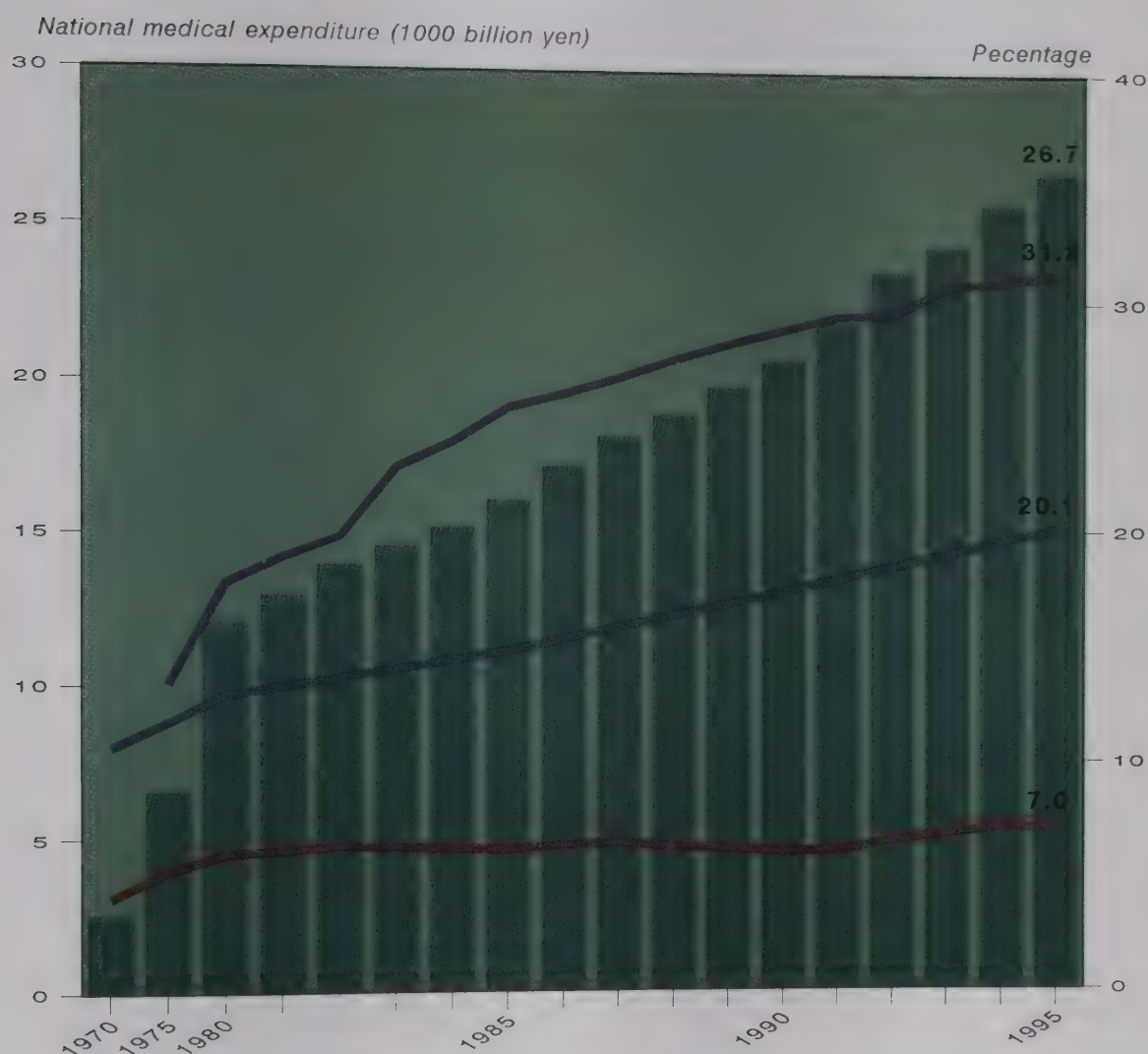
Percentage of total elderly (aged 60 and over) deaths by major cause



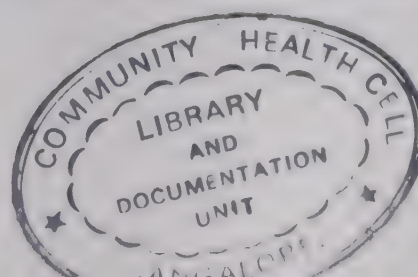
Mortality and morbidity patterns among the elderly are changing. With the recent reduction in infectious diseases, geriatric diseases such as cancer and heart diseases have become the main causes of death.

d. Health Financing - Medical Expenditure in Japan

-  Elderly share of the population (60+)
-  Elderly share of national medical expenditure
-  Share of national income spent on national health care
-  National medical expenditure



Population ageing may initiate considerable increases in health expenditures for elderly care, as illustrated by Japan where such increases coincide with comparatively little change in the share of national income spent on health care for all age groups. Increases in Japan are attributed to the combination of changes in morbidity and disease patterns among the elderly, and of rising costs of examination and treatment due to advances in medical science and technology.

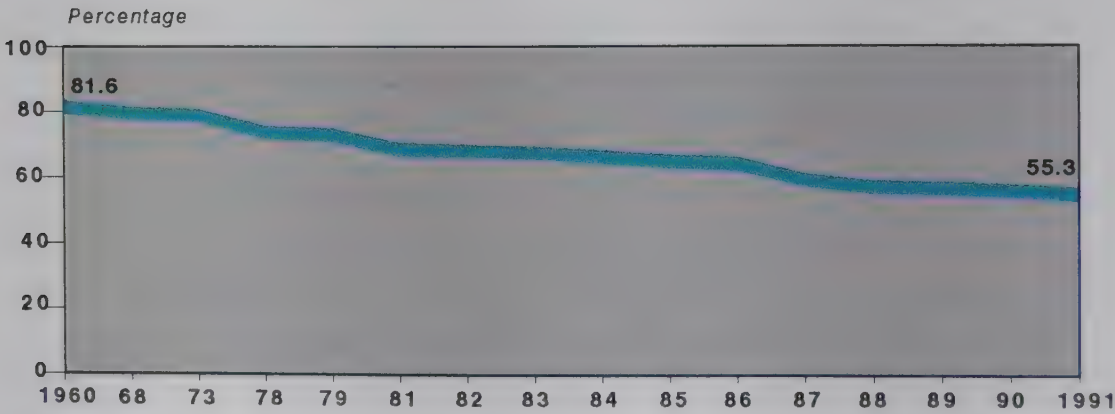


4.3 Family and Care of the Elderly

a. Attitude of Japanese Women towards the Care of Elderly Parents

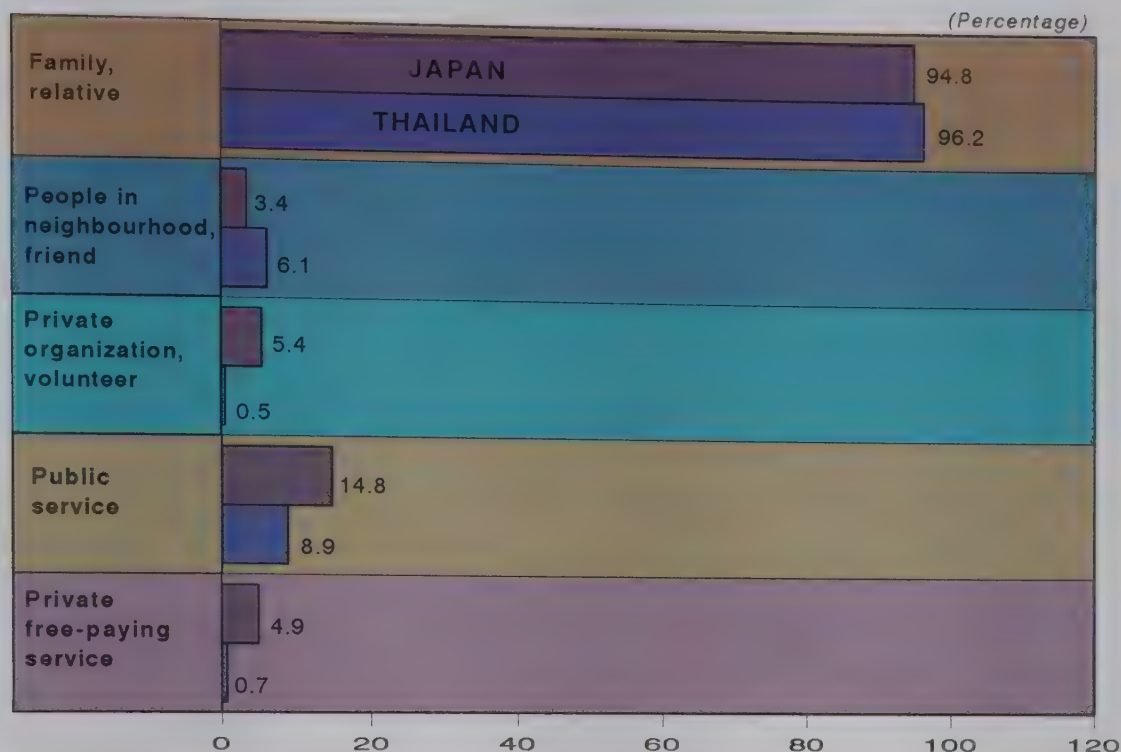


b. Trend of Japanese Elderly (aged 65 and over) Living with Their Children

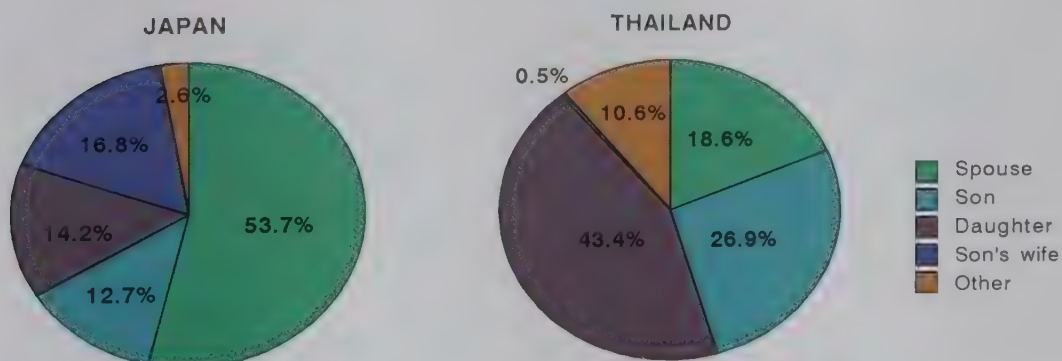


Attitudes towards the duty and custom of children caring for elderly parents are changing, and there is a rise in independent living, either as couples or alone, among elderly men and women.

c. Desired Attendants for the Elderly



Note: The question was "If your physical condition deteriorates and you have to be taken care of by somebody, who do you wish to take care of you?" The survey was conducted on men and women aged 60 and over in each country. Most desired someone from the "family, relative" category as an attendant.

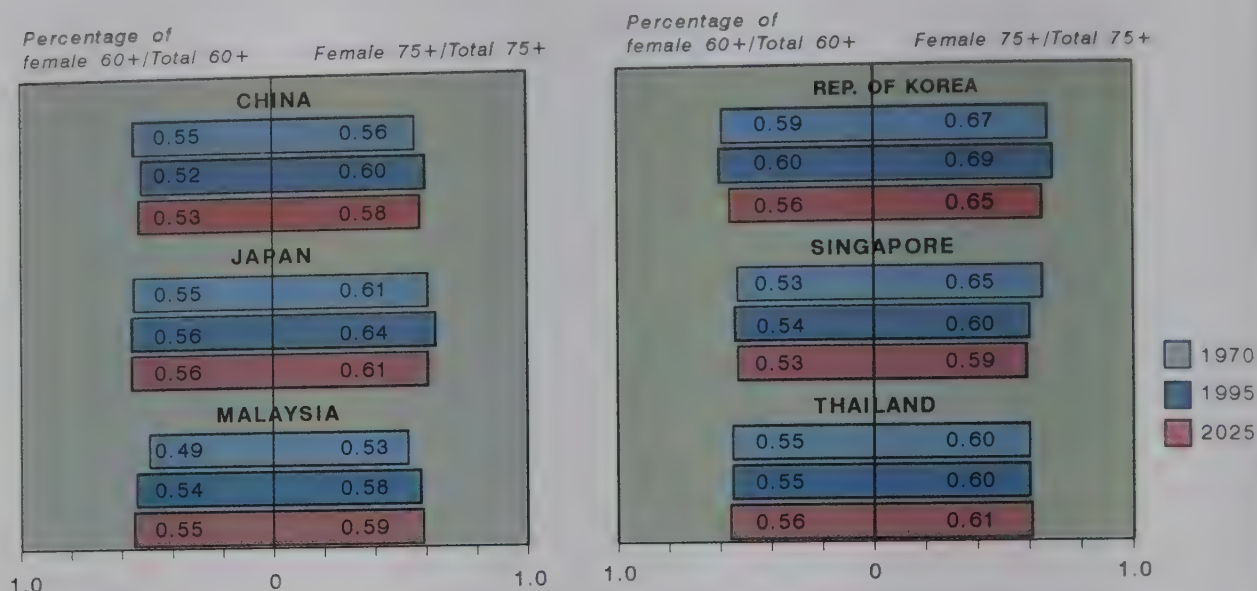


Note: The question was "Who do you most prefer to take care of you from among your family and relatives?" The survey was conducted on men and women aged 60 and over in each country.

Family members continue to provide care for the elderly throughout the region where there is little use of alternative or supplementary forms of care. Diversity in caregivers is illustrated by a preference for youngest daughters in Thailand, and for wives of sons in Japan.

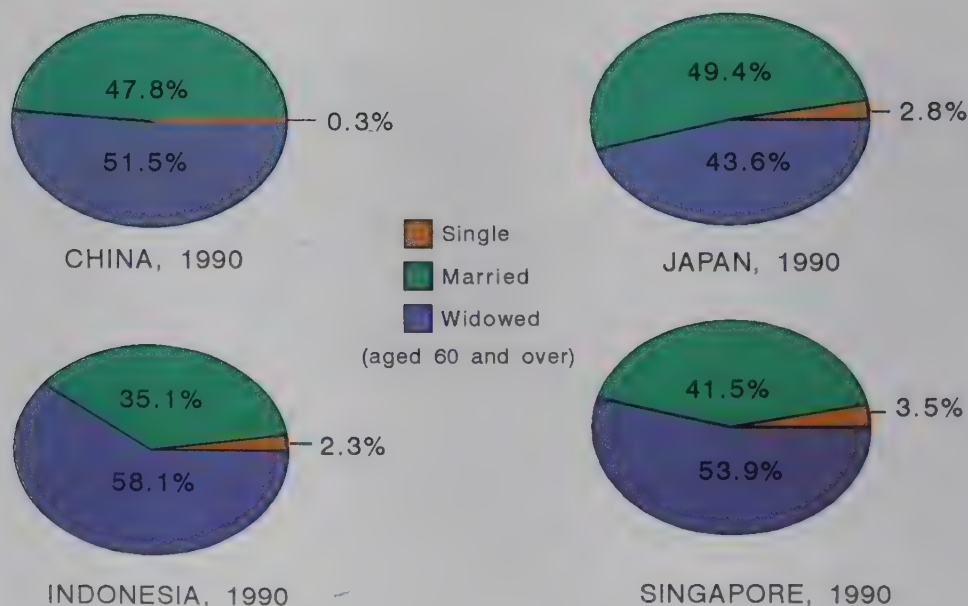
4.4 Women and Population Ageing

a. Female Share among the Elderly Population



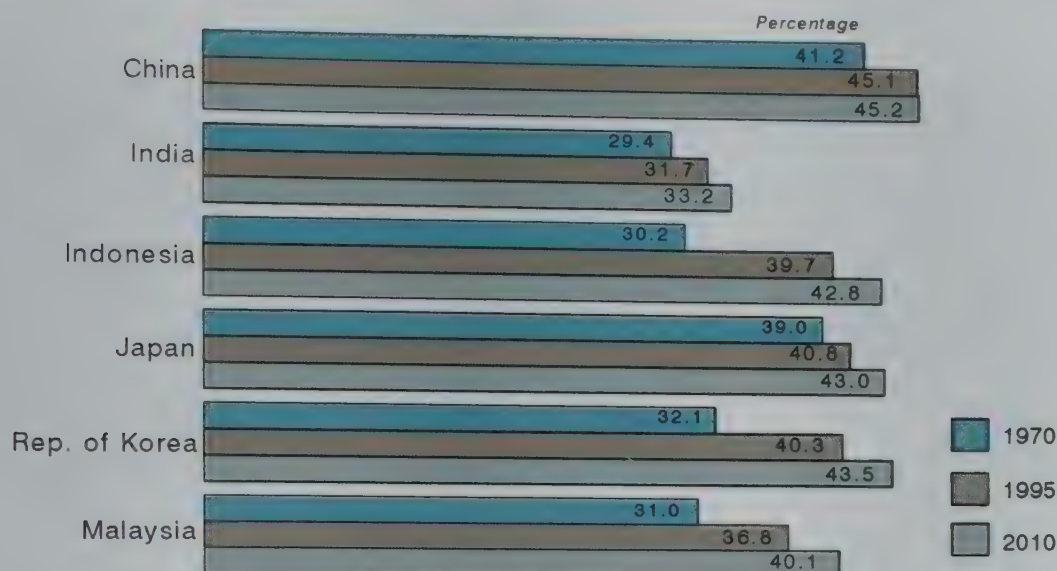
Population ageing policies should respond to the needs and concerns of women who form an increasing majority of the elderly (aged 60 and over), and an even larger majority of the old-old elderly (aged 75 and over).

b. Marital Status of Elderly Women



The special needs and concerns of elderly widows are a policy concern throughout the region.

c. Female Share of the Total Economically Active Population



Policies should respond to the increased responsibilities of women for provision of home care for children, elderly spouses and old-old elderly parents that coincides with the rise in their economic activity away from home.

d. Social Protection for Elderly Women

Increasing life expectancy and longer periods of widowhood render women more vulnerable than men. Policies thus should address the special needs and concerns of women for social protection against economic and physical uncertainties. Malaysia, Singapore and Japan illustrate the disparities between women and men in the small and privileged group that is covered by social protection schemes in the region. The average balance of women in the Employees Provident Fund of Malaysia during 1992 was only 58 per cent of the \$15,379 balance of men. The corresponding figure for women members of the Central Provident Fund in Singapore is 83 per cent of the \$24,000 balance for men. Nearly 80 per cent of the elderly living alone in Tokyo metropolitan area are women. The annual income (either earned income, pension or survivors benefits) is less than two million yen for 73 per cent of these women, but for only 51 per cent of men living alone in Tokyo.

4.5 The Family, Community Support and Social Services

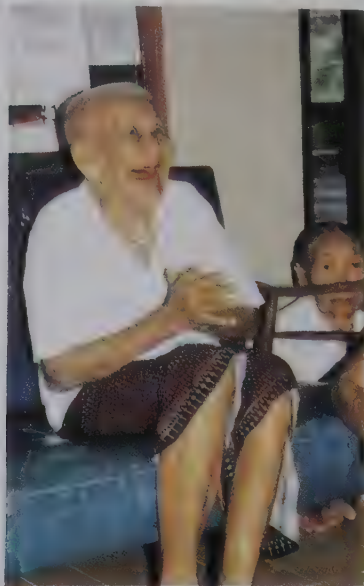




The family remains central to support for the elderly in the region. There is increasing recognition of the need to complement this support with a wide variety of home care and community-based services. There is also a need to supplement such support with institutional alternatives offering care for those with special needs, especially the old-old elderly.

4.6 Potential of the Elderly - Productive Ageing





Productive ageing means the full utilization of both the experience and the potential of elderly women and men as a contribution to the economic and social development of countries throughout Asia and the Pacific region.

List of Sources

- 1.1a United Nations. (1994). *The Sex and Age Distribution of the World Populations, The 1994 Revision.*
- 1.1b *Ibid.*
- 1.1c *Ibid.*
- 1.2a *Ibid.*
- 1.2b United Nations. (1995). *World Population Prospects, The 1994 Revision.*
- 1.2c United Nations. (1994). *Op. cit.*
- 2.1a United Nations. (1995). *Op. cit.*
- 2.1b United Nations. (1995). *Op. cit.*
- 2.2 United Nations. (1994). *Op. cit.*
- 2.3a United Nations. (1995). *Op. cit.*
- 2.3b United Nations. (1995). *Op. cit.*
- 2.4 United Nations. (1994). *Op. cit.*
- 2.5a United Nations. (1993). *Demographic Yearbook 1991 (Special Issue: Population Ageing and the Situation of Elderly Persons).*
- 2.5b Japan: Bureau of Statistics, Management and Coordination Agency, *Estimated Population for October 1, 1994*; China: National Statistical Office, *China 1990, 10 percent Population Sample Survey.*
- 3.1a World Bank. (1992). *World Development Report, 1992* ; United Nations (1994). *Op. cit.*
- 3.1b Korea: Korea Institute for Health and Welfare; Japan:Ministry of Health and Welfare, *Annual Report on Health and Welfare 1991-1992*, Tokyo, 1992; and 1995 White Paper on Health and Welfare, Tokyo 1995.
- 3.2 United Nations. (1994). *Op. cit.*
- 3.3a ILO. (1994). *Year Book of Labour Statistics 1994.*
- 3.3b *Ibid.*
- 3.4 Policy Office for the Aged, Management and Coordination Agency. (1991). *International Comparative Study of the Life and Perceptions of the Elderly, 1991.*
- 3.5 Japan Family Planning Association. (1994). *Handbook of Family Planning in Japan: 40th Anniversary of JFPA*, Tokyo, 1994, p.264. Note: 1. The figures above represent the average values calculated from the cross-section data for the years around 1920 and 1992; 2. The ages of events shown in the above life cycle were calculated using average life expectancy from the age of marriage.

- 4.1a Policy Office for the Aged, Management and Coordination Agency. (1991). *International Comparative Study of the Life and Perceptions of the Elderly, 1991*.
- 4.1b Banna, N.P. "Old-age protection systems" (ISSA/ASIA/RTC/KL/IV: Appendix) (Geneva, International Social Security Association, 2 May 1991); Singh P. *Social Security in Asia and Pacific: A Comparative Study* (New Delhi, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, 1992); U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, *Social Security Programmes Throughout the World - 1991 and 1993* (Washington, DC, Government Printing Office, 1992 and 1994); other national, international and United Nations agency sources..
- 4.1c Policy Office for the Aged, Management and Coordination Agency. (1991). *International Comparative Study of the Life and Perceptions of the Elderly, 1991*.
- 4.1d *Ibid.*
- 4.2a United Nations. (1993). *Demographic Yearbook 1991* (Special Issue: Population Ageing and the Situation of Elderly Persons).
- 4.2b Data provided by Dr. Vieki Lamb, Department of Sociology, South Carolina University in Table 1 of paper presented to occasional seminar at Nihon University Population Research Institute, June, 1995. For Japanese data, Toshitaka Inoue, Takao Shigematsu and Zenji Najo "Japan's Health Life Table, 1990 - Quality of the World-longest Life Expectancy". *The Japanese Journal of Health of Human Ecology*, vol. 62, 1995; The World Health Organization reports similar trends, in WHO (1995). *The World Health Report, 1995*. (Geneva: WHO), p.38.
- 4.2c Japan: Health and Welfare Statistics Association. (1994). *Journal of Health and Welfare Statistics*, Vol. 41, No.9, Tokyo, 1994, table 38; United Nations. (1993). *Op. cit.*
- 4.2d Ministry of Health and Welfare. (1995). *1995 White Paper on Health and Welfare*, Tokyo.
- 4.3a Population Problems Research Council. (1994). *In Search of the New Family Model: Summary of Twenty-second National Survey on Family Planning*, Mainichi Shimbun, Tokyo.
- 4.3b Ministry of Health and Welfare. (1994). *Basic Survey for National Life*, Tokyo.
- 4.3c Policy Office for the Aged, Management and Coordination Agency. (1986). *International Comparative Study on Life and Perceptions of the Elderly*, Tokyo.
- 4.4a United Nations. (1994). *Op. cit.*
- 4.4b United Nations. (1993). *Op. cit.*
- 4.4c ILO. (1995). *Preliminary Estimates for Economic Activity*, (Geneva: ILO) November.
- 4.4d Asher, M.G. (1994). "Options for reforming the existing social security system in Malaysia" paper presented at the Workshop on Social Security: "Social Security Towards 2020", Kuala Lumpur, 17-18 January 1994, pp.8-9.

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) is the largest of the five United Nations regional commissions in terms of area covered and people served. The aim of this regional arm of the United Nations is to promote economic activity and social progress in the developing countries of the Asian and Pacific region.

With its 49 members and 10 associate members, ESCAP represents approximately 58 per cent of the world's population, or 3.3 billion people. Among its members and associate members are highly industrialized nations such as Japan and Australia; dynamic newly industrialized economies, such as the Republic of Korea, Singapore and Hong Kong; six new Republic of Central Asia, which are under-going rapid economic transition; 13 of the world's least developed countries, and small Pacific island developing countries.

The main legislative organ of ESCAP is the Commission. The Commission meets annually, at the ministerial level, to provide a forum for all the Governments of the region to review and discuss economic and social issues in order to promote and strengthen regional cooperation. In broad terms, ESCAP's mandates are focused on four basic functions: in-depth research and analysis on pressing problems in the region; mobilization of the intergovernmental machinery to foster the exchange of experience; provision of technical and advisory assistance from the secretariat and, increasingly among countries of the region themselves through technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC); and collection and dissemination of social, economic and development data and information.

ESCAP plays the unique role of coordinator and catalyst for the promotion of region-wide economic and social initiatives as well as an executing agency for inter-country development projects. In addition, three regional research and training institutions in the fields of agricultural development, statistics and technology transfer operate under the auspices of ESCAP.

ESCAP's member Governments work together in this "think tank" to stimulate growth, improve socio-economic conditions and help build the foundations of modern society. They collaborate in many important fields: trade, investment, industrial and technological development, population, urbanization, rural development and human resources development.

ESCAP's in-house multi-disciplinary capability provides technical support to member Governments in virtually every aspect of development. This wide range of technical assistance is being provided mainly through direct advisory services to Governments, training and sharing of regional experiences and information through meetings, seminars, publications and intercountry networks.

Japanese Organization for International Cooperation in Family Planning, Inc. (JOICFP) was established in 1968 as a legal corporation approved by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Health and Welfare of the Government of Japan in order to contribute to the improvement of the health and welfare of the people in developing countries.

To achieve this goal, JOICFP conducts a wide variety of activities:

- Promotion of integrated family planning programmes
- Human resource development/Training
- Exchange of experts
- International meetings
- Development of educational aids
- Commodities assistance
- Information and publications
- Research and study

In implementing these activities, JOICFP closely collaborates with the Government of Japan, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), such international organizations such as United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and World Health Organization (WHO), and governments and non-governmental organizations in developing countries.

Demographic Estimates for Selected Asian and Pacific Countries and Areas, 1995

Country or area and region	Mid-1995 Population (thousands)	Annual growth rate (percentage)	Total fertility rate (per woman)	Life expectancy at birth	
				Males	Females
				(years)	(years)
EAST ASIA					
China	1,227,000	1.1	2.0	67	71
Democratic People's Rep. of Korea	23,917	1.8	2.3	68	75
Hong Kong	6,207	2.4	1.4	76	81
Japan	125,251	0.2	1.4	77	83
Macau	427	4.6	2.3	72	76
Mongolia	2,410	2.0	3.4	63	66
Republic of Korea	44,851	0.9	1.8	68	76
SOUTH-EAST ASIA					
Brunei Darussalam	292	3.0	3.1	72	77
Cambodia	10,251	2.8	5.1	51	54
Indonesia	195,756	1.5	2.7	62	65
Lao People's Democratic Rep.	4,882	2.9	6.4	51	54
Malaysia	19,948	2.3	3.4	69	74
Myanmar	46,527	2.1	4.0	57	61
Philippines	67,581	2.0	3.8	66	69
Singapore	2,988	1.9	1.8	73	78
Thailand	59,401	1.1	2.1	67	71
Viet Nam	74,545	2.1	3.7	64	68
SOUTH ASIA					
Afghanistan	20,141	2.9	6.6	44	45
Bangladesh	120,433	2.2	4.1	57	57
Bhutan	1,638	1.8	5.7	50	54
India	935,744	1.8	3.6	61	62
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	67,283	2.8	4.8	68	69
Maldives	254	3.2	6.5	65	62
Nepal	21,918	2.5	5.2	55	55
Pakistan	130,660	3.1	5.9	62	64
Sri Lanka	18,354	1.2	2.4	70	75
CENTRAL ASIA					
Armenia	3,599	1.3	2.5	70	75
Azerbaijan	7,558	1.1	2.4	67	75
Kazakstan	17,111	0.6	2.4	68	74
Kyrgyzstan	4,745	1.6	3.5	66	73
Tajikistan	6,101	2.8	4.7	69	74
Turkmenistan	4,099	2.2	3.8	63	69
Uzbekistan	22,843	2.2	3.7	67	73
PACIFIC					
Australia	18,040	1.1	1.9	75	81
Fiji	784	1.5	2.9	70	74
New Caledonia	181	1.5	2.6	70	75
New Zealand	3,536	1.2	2.1	73	79
Papua New Guinea	4,302	2.3	4.8	56	58

Source: 1995 ESCAP Population Data Sheet.

Elderly Statistics for Selected Asian and Pacific Countries and Areas, 1995

Country or area	Number of elderly 60+ yrs (thousands)	Youth 0-14 yrs (per cent)	Working age 15-59 yrs (per cent)	Elderly share of total			Female share 60+ yrs
				60+ yrs	65+ yrs	75+ yrs	
EAST ASIA							
China	114,159	26.4	64.3	9.3	6.1	1.8	51.9
DPR Korea	1,662	28.5	64.5	7.0	4.6	1.5	64.6
Hong Kong	848	19.1	66.4	14.5	10.2	3.6	52.8
Japan	25,100	16.2	63.7	20.1	14.1	54.0	56.8
Mongolia	131	38.0	56.6	5.4	3.4	1.0	54.2
Republic of Korea	4,011	23.6	67.5	8.9	5.6	1.7	59.9
SOUTH-EAST ASIA							
Brunei Darussalam	16	33.4	61.0	5.6	3.5	1.0	50.0
Cambodia	433	44.9	50.8	4.2	2.6	0.7	61.9
Indonesia	13,314	33.0	60.3	6.7	4.3	1.2	53.4
Lao PDR	235	44.8	50.4	4.8	3.0	0.7	54.9
Malaysia	1,194	38.0	56.1	5.9	3.9	1.3	53.9
Myanmar	3,058	37.4	56.0	6.6	4.1	1.1	53.7
Philippines	3,627	38.3	56.4	5.4	3.4	1.0	53.5
Singapore	286	22.7	67.3	10.0	6.7	2.4	53.8
Thailand	4,451	28.3	64.1	7.6	5.0	1.6	55.2
Viet Nam	5,477	37.5	55.2	7.3	4.9	1.5	58.7
SOUTH ASIA							
Afganistan	957	40.7	54.5	4.8	2.8	0.6	50.8
Bangladesh	5,864	39.5	55.6	4.9	3.1	0.9	50.0
Bhutan	92	-	-	-	-	-	54.3
India	67,300	35.2	57.6	7.2	4.6	1.3	51.3
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	4,006	43.5	50.5	6.0	3.9	1.0	48.7
Maldives	15	46.3	47.9	5.8	3.9	1.2	40.0
Nepal	1,194	42.4	52.2	5.4	3.4	0.8	50.8
Pakistan	6,582	44.3	51.0	4.7	3.0	0.8	49.7
Sri Lanka	1,586	30.7	60.7	8.6	5.8	1.9	51.1
CENTRAL ASIA							
Armenia	404	29.6	59.1	11.2	7.4	1.9	57.4
Azerbaijan	699	31.8	58.9	9.2	5.9	1.8	59.4
Kazakhstan	1,690	29.8	60.3	9.9	7.0	2.2	63.8
Kyrgyzstan	400	37.1	54.4	8.4	5.8	1.7	61.3
Tajikistan	393	43.1	50.5	6.4	4.3	1.4	56.7
Turkmenistan	256	39.5	54.3	6.2	4.2	1.3	59.0
Uzbekistan	1,502	39.9	53.5	6.6	4.4	1.4	58.8
PACIFIC							
Australia	2,796	21.5	63.0	15.5	11.6	4.6	58.3
Fiji	48	34.7	59.2	6.1	3.7	1.0	52.1
New Caledonia	14	30.8	61.5	7.7	4.9	1.6	..
New Zealand	539	23.4	61.5	15.1	11.3	4.6	55.5
Papua New Guinea	205	39.5	55.7	4.8	2.9	0.5	50.7
More developed reions	213,242	19.6	62.1	18.3	13.5	5.2	59.3
Less developed regions	329,450	34.6	58.2	7.2	4.7	1.4	62.7
Least developed countries	27,643	43.7	51.5	4.8	3.0	0.8	63.5

Source: United Nations, The Sex and Age Distribution of the World Populations, the 1994 Revision.

ESCAP
&
JOICFP